

# B

BARNARD  
MAGAZINE

REUNION 2014

## ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Choreographer Twyla Tharp Returns to Barnard  
New Mural Celebrates Student Life  
Senior Funds Spur Campus Spruce-Ups





JENNELLE FONG '14  
LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE, CA  
ENGLISH

MALVINA HELENE KEFALAS '14  
PLAINVIEW, NY  
SOCIOLOGY

## Meet two of our newest alumnae.

### HOW THEY'VE CHANGED AT BARNARD

Jennelle: "It's difficult to remember who I was before I came to Barnard, because I'm now so fully invested in myself as a Barnard woman. I've opened up. I feel that I can overcome any limitation. Friendship and community have become much more important to me."

Malvina: "I know now how to forge my own path, find new directions, and seek out possibilities. I feel more resilient and able to see uncertainty as opportunity."

### WHY THE WORLD NEEDS BARNARD:

Jennelle: "The world needs places that address the well-being of women—intellectually,

mentally, socially, and personally. Barnard was that place for me."

Malvina: "There is no other place where such brilliant women, from so many backgrounds, who have such potential and fire in their souls, can grow into each other's role models like this. We have to share pieces of that inspiration and take it with us wherever we go from here."

Their story is Barnard's story. It's the story of progress, of the profound alchemy that happens at Barnard every day. Your support makes it happen. Give now: 212.870.2520 or [www.barnard.edu/gift](http://www.barnard.edu/gift)

# B

## BARNARD MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2014



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### Entrepreneurial Spirit

Living in Cambridge, Mass., a hotbed of innovation and entrepreneurship generated mostly by men, I was delighted to see in the spring magazine the profiles of Barnard women entrepreneurs and learn about the College's initiatives promoting entrepreneurial activity among its students.

While the profiles were heavy on biographical details and chronicles of achievement, largely missing was any analysis of the traits and skill sets that made these women successful. Indeed, the article made the road to entrepreneurship and business acumen seem a whole lot smoother (family connections, the support of a spouse, the College's career development office, a family steeped in science) than many of us found it to be. I'd have liked to see more about the persistence, ingenuity, and work that building a business requires.

Also missing was any discussion of the role played by attending a women's liberal arts college. In the course of my life, I have been a high school history teacher, an entrepreneur as an independent college admissions consultant, the manager of a small New York building my parents owned, and a grant writer. The only one of these endeavors for which I had any formal training was the first. The others relied on many of the skills I either acquired or polished at Barnard: the confidence to take risks, as well as the ability to research anything, write clearly, think

analytically, and approach accepted truths with a healthy skepticism.

Entrepreneurs are agents of their success, able to marshal and integrate what they know, whom they know, and who they are. Kudos to the women you write about for doing all that.

—Liz Field Zucker '67

I hope the story in the spring 2014 issue encourages more Barnard women to pursue entrepreneurial careers. I greatly appreciated that, regardless of our major and liberal-arts orientation, Barnard taught us all how to do research—that, along with the discipline to ask questions and research solutions, is among the most critical requirements to start and sustain a business.

—Amy Kallman Epstein '67,  
Pin Tree Designs, LLC

### The Birth of Denim

The article "Selling Goods, Sharing Culture" (Spring 2014) on Hasia Diner's speech was informative and interesting. I would like to correct one assertion. Levi Strauss was not "the inventor of denim." The cloth was first made in Nîmes, France—hence the words "de Nîmes" which became denim. And "jeans" comes from the French name of Genoa, *Gênes*, where denim was used to make the pants.

—Vivian Gruder '57

### Praise

I always enjoy *Barnard Magazine*, but the spring 2014 issue is particularly excellent. Thank you!

—Sharon Johnson '85

### And a Correction

In the article "Philanthropy Takes Root," there is an error. Roselin Seider Wagner and I are buddies who have been fund cochairs of our class forever! We are not connected to the Barnard Club of Baltimore.

—Miriam Sharfman Zadek '50

# BARNARD

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# POMP AND PARTISANSHIP

Like most good celebrations, the ritual of commencement is typically a predictable affair. Each year, on lawns and under tents and in football stadiums across the country, hundreds of thousands of young people march in wavering lines to the chords of “Pomp and Circumstance.” Each year, they don rented polyester robes whose origins lie somewhere in the Middle Ages and sing songs that make them weep with a nostalgia they didn’t know they shared. Each year, they are waved on to their futures with advice and hearty congratulations, with flowers and good wishes and soggy hugs from those who realize that, even in the age of Facebook and Twitter, they may never see each other again.

**In a typical year**, commencement speakers are the bread and butter of this moveable feast. They provide substance in the form of wisdom and offer sustenance in their words. Every once in a while (think of George Marshall at Harvard in 1947 or David Foster Wallace at Kenyon in 2005) they either change the course of history or capture its flow in a particularly memorable way. But in 2014 something different happened, something both disturbing and profound. Because in between the comedians and poets and politicians (the usual buffet of wisdom dispensers) were four commencement-speakers-who- weren’t; four would-be speakers who were either cancelled at the last minute or withdrew in the face of widespread campus criticism. Christine Lagarde, the first female director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), set to speak at Smith. Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at Rutgers. Robert J. Birgeneau, former UC Berkeley chancellor, at Haverford, and Ayaan Hirsi Ali (as honorary degree recipient) at Brandeis. All deeply respected (if somewhat controversial) public figures. All widely accomplished in their fields and armed, one might expect, with at least a few words of wisdom to share with their respective audiences. And yet all, in the end, essentially shunned by the campuses they were only recently selected to address. A petition signed by Smith students and faculty railed against Lagarde’s leadership of the IMF, an organization that many of the protesters labelled imperialistic and oppressive. Haverford students opposed Birgeneau’s handling of unrest at Berkeley; Rutgers protested Rice’s involvement in the Iraq War.

Each of these claims may well have had merit, or at least raised issues worthy of debate. Yet because they focused on silencing the speakers in question rather than engaging them, that debate never occurred. Instead, the camps in each case came to a deeply unsatisfying draw: the speaker did not speak, and the arguments—on all sides, in all four cases—were silenced. Or as Kathleen McCartney, president of Smith, wrote in the aftermath: protesters would be “satisfied that their activism has had a desired effect. But at what cost to Smith College?”

It is tempting to dismiss these four cases as the crimes and misdemeanors of our country’s education sector. We are too liberal. We are too sensitive. We spend too much time coddling a generation reared by helicoptering parents. All of which may be true. But there is also a second, and scarier, reality at play, one that extends far beyond our own ivory towers. And that is the reality of our increasingly divided state. Until recently, the various groups and factions that have long defined our diverse country

*Continued on Page 53*





# SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS



**For the second consecutive year**, Commencement took place at the iconic Radio City Music Hall, with 570 students receiving their diplomas. Keynote Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, received the Barnard Medal of Distinction at the May 18 ceremony and noted, "The world we live in can be tough. It can be unjust. But here's the great news: each of you has the power to do something about it." The Barnard Medal of Distinction was also presented to Mahzarin Banaji, social psychologist and professor of social ethics at Harvard University; Ursula Burns, chairman and chief executive officer of Xerox; and Patti Smith, acclaimed musician, poet, and artist, who capped off the day by singing the 2004 song "My Blakean Year" to thunderous applause.

**Photos** (Read from left) **1** Cecile Richards **2** Rachel Salomon '14 delivered the Academic Reflections address. **3** Patti Smith **4** Radio City Music Hall's stage **5, 6** At the mother-daughter alumnae breakfast, Shira Lupkin '14 and Michelle Gitlitz Lupkin '90; Kei Phillip '14 and Paulette Lewis '88 **7** Dean Avis Hinkson '84, English department chair Peter Platt, Smith, Barnard board chair Jolyne Caruso-FitzGerald '81, Ursula Burns, Richards, President Debora Spar, Tara Burns '14, Mahzarin Banaji, Trustee Linda Fayne Levinson '62, Provost Linda Bell **8** Tiffany Chow, Joeyee Li, Christina Phan, and Veronica Lai, all Class of '14 **9** Timea Szell, senior lecturer in English, and Jonathan Snow, assistant professor of biological sciences. For more about Commencement 2014, go to [barnard.edu/commencement/archives/2014](http://barnard.edu/commencement/archives/2014).



## WRITING HISTORY'S HEROINES CAROL BERKIN '64

When Carol Berkin arrived at Barnard, she had been a voracious reader all her life but was still “a babe in the woods,” she says. “I had read everything from Greek mythology to librettos from great operas,” she remembers. “I had read Goethe, but I thought it was pronounced ‘Go-ett.’ I was ill-prepared for everything, but I was so thrilled to be around people who were smarter than me.”

Berkin went on to become a best-selling author known as a pioneer in early American women’s history. A presidential professor emerita at Baruch College and a faculty member at the City University of New York Graduate Center, she recently published *Wondrous Beauty* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2014), about Elizabeth “Betsy” Patterson Bonaparte, a former sister-in-law of Napoleon and an independent spirit who was considered by many to be the most beautiful woman in America.

“Barnard helped me to come into my own, and was a life-changing experience for me. I had extraordinary professors at Barnard,” she insists, citing several, including modern-European historian Sidney Burrell and Medieval historian Norman Cantor. “They made me realize history was really just amazing human stories. That these were things that had happened to real people really grabbed my attention, and made me love American history.” Annette Kar Baxter ’47, a cultural historian renowned as a teacher of women’s history, was another inspiration.



Photograph by Michael Lionstar

“She pushed me to do my best, to hone my skills further and deeper.”

A public school education had nearly squelched her love for learning, says Berkin, who was raised in Mobile, Ala., in the 1950s. “Public school in the South at the time taught American history as the coming of the Civil War and its aftermath. Of course, it wasn’t called the Civil War. It was the War of Northern Aggression.”

Being raised by Easterners—Berkin’s father was from Manhattan, her mother from Connecticut—gave her a wider perspective. “At home, I heard about a larger American history, and I was allowed to see beyond the Southern charm, all the rules for good girls of the era,” which Berkin can still rattle off. She says, with a sigh, “I was a failure at them. I kept forgetting to wear pink and not have an opinion. Needless to say, I was not asked to senior prom.”

She was, however, accepted at Barnard. Considering a major, Berkin felt ill-equipped to choose. “My mother said, ‘Well, you have only two talents—you read fast and you write well.’ So we decided that history or English were the only things that fit.”

Berkin arrived on campus near the end of Millicent Carey McIntosh’s presidency. “[Mrs.] Mac made it clear that not only could women do anything, but that we must do something important in order to be whole people,” Berkin remembers.

Determined to fulfill that destiny, Berkin headed next to Columbia, where she received her master’s and PhD.

*Continued on Page 53*

## RELEASES

NEW & UPCOMING

### FICTION

#### ICE SHEAR

By M. P. Cooley (Martha Cooley) '93  
William Morrow, 2014, \$25.99

#### THE BREAKFAST CLUB MURDER

By Camilla Crespi (Camilla Trinchieri) '63  
Five Star Publishing, 2014, \$25.99

#### THE ANGEL OF LOSSES

By Stephanie Feldman '05  
Ecco, 2014, \$25.99

#### QUICK KILLS

By Lynn Lurie '80  
Etruscan Press, 2014, \$14

### NONFICTION

#### THE WINEMAKER'S HAND: CONVERSATIONS ON TALENT, TECHNIQUE, AND TERROIR

By Natalie Twersky Berkowitz '56  
Columbia University Press, 2014, \$27.95

#### A STORY LARGER THAN MY OWN

Edited by Janet Burroway '58  
University of Chicago Press, 2014, \$18

#### ABORTION LAW IN TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE: CASES AND CONTROVERSIES

Edited by Rebecca Cook '70 and Joanna Erdman  
University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014, \$69.95

#### THE ANTONIO II BADILE ALBUM OF DRAWINGS: THE ORIGINS OF COLLECTING DRAWINGS IN EARLY MODERN NORTHERN ITALY

By Evelyn Farber Karet '59  
Ashgate Publishing Company, 2014, \$129.95

#### SELF PROJECTION: THE DIRECTOR'S IMAGE IN ART CINEMA

By Linda Haverty Rugg '80  
University of Minnesota Press, 2014,  
\$25 paperback, \$75 hardcover

### FACULTY

#### PEACELAND: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND THE EVERYDAY POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION

By Séverine Autesserre  
Cambridge University Press, 2014, \$29.99

#### ST. PAUL

By Pier Paolo Pasolini, translated by  
Elizabeth A. Castelli  
Verso Books, 2014, \$26.95

#### A LEVER LONG ENOUGH: A HISTORY OF COLUMBIA'S SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE SINCE 1864

By Robert McCaughey  
Columbia University Press, 2014, \$40



# STATE OF FABULOUS

An enthusiastic Debora Spar opened her update on the state of the College to alumnae attending Reunion 2014's Alumnae Association Awards ceremony by declaring, "The state of the College is fabulous!" She also might have used that adjective to describe Reunion.

**Not only notable** for its near-record attendance level, this year's event included a new program highlight—a series of micro lectures meant to give alumnae a taste of what students are learning today. (Turn to page 8 for more about these four 10-minute talks given by faculty members.) *New York Times* food writer Melissa Clark '90 moderated a panel on food, health, and wellness; Anna Quindlen '74 spoke about her new book, *Still Life with Bread Crumbs*, and the everyday challenges of American women. Additionally, two gifts from the classes of 2014 and 2009 were also unveiled. (See page 16.) There was also the dedication of the Reunion Recognition Wall outside Sulzberger Annex; the plaques on this wall, across from the Vagelos Alumnae Center courtyard, recognize individual classes whose support of Barnard reaches certain fiscal levels.

**Photos** (read from left) **1** A new bronze inlay in the brick walk in front of Barnard Hall welcomed Reunion attendees. **2** Professor Dusa McDuff, moderator of the STEM panel on careers **3** Moth host Cyndi Stivers '78 with the alumnae storytellers: Marilyn Heggie De Lallo '49, Barbara Friedman Klarman '59, Sonya Weil Michel '64, Linda Yellen '69, Randi Jaffe '74, Kimberly Flynn '84, and Nora MacDonald '09 **4** The new Reunion Recognition Wall outside the Sulzberger Annex **5** Vera Halper Schiller '38, Shirley Adelson Siegel '37, and Elly Stiefel Appleby '39 **6** Leslie Hochberg Shapiro and Marguerite Stratton, both '64 **7** Jean Vandervoort Cullen, Edith Sprung Rose, Carmel (Kim) Prashker Ebb, all '44 **8** Autumn Scoggan and Kimberly Mhoon, members of Sydnie L. Mosley Dances, performed at Reunion; Mosley is Class of '07. **9** Members of '04: Tonysha Taylor, Emmanuelle St. Jean, and Fatima Ali **10** Alison Von Glinow and Leslie Skalak, both '09 **11** Anna Quindlen **12** Remembering life on 8 Reid: Cecelia Ward Riddett with LaVergne Trawick '69 and Karen Vexler Hartman '69 **13** Marlene Feldstein Ross and Judith Daynard Boies, both '59 **14** Madelyn Popkin '14 and Jess Silfa GS '15 at the LGBTQ tea **15** Micro lectures professors Steven Stroessner, Kaiama Glover, Janna Levin '88, and senior lecturer Pamela Cobrin **16** Class of '09—Bottom row: Brianna D'Orazio, Nicole Economou, Jennifer Feerman, and Laura Kenkel Lennon Top row: Simone Reisman, Sidnie Margolies, Kateri Benjamin, Ali Biss, Julie Malyn **17** From '89, Laura Sheridan Powers, Daphne Schweky Albert, and Jasmin Rodriguez **18** Melissa Clark

For more about Reunion 2014, please go to [barnard.edu](http://barnard.edu), then type "Reunion 2014" in the search panel.



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# FAST- TRACK TOPICS

New to Reunion 2014: an academic sampler of subjects from the College's current course offerings drew alumnae in droves to "On the Fast Track: Micro Lectures by Barnard Faculty" in the Held Auditorium on Friday afternoon. The jam-packed event consisted of 10-minute talks by four professors on a range of subjects, giving alumnae a taste of what today's students are learning. The topics were irresistible, from the mysterious black holes of the universe to sex and American culture. Breakout sessions with each faculty member followed, enabling alumnae to discuss the subjects in greater depth.

## WHEN BLACK HOLES COLLIDE

Janna Levin '88, associate professor of physics and astronomy, spoke first, noting that when she entered Barnard, she had had little exposure to math and science. She credited the College with giving her the chance to explore different subjects and with helping her pinpoint her life's passion. Levin explained that our galaxy, the Milky Way, has around 100 billion stars, and after the 1990 launch of the Hubble telescope, astronomers could, for the first time, gain some understanding of galaxies beyond our own. "This is really quite spectacular that the universe is so vast," Levin said. "Literally, as far as the eye can see, galaxies abound. There are as many galaxies in the universe that are visible to us as there are stars in any given galaxy. That's really quite amazing."

But galaxies include more than stars. Most of Levin's talk was about those mysterious aspects of the universe known as black holes, from which gravity prevents anything from escaping. "Anything" includes light; any light that gets too close to a black hole is sucked in by its extraordinary gravitational pull. "We have something like a million black holes in our own galaxy," she said. "In fact, there's a supermass of black holes at its center. There's this funny thing—black holes are dark from the outside, but they're not dark inside," she added. Inside a black hole is a bright flash of light.

As a black hole pulls in material from neighboring stars, it spits up magnetic fields and shoots luminous jets from the center, which is something that can be seen with a radio telescope. The forefront of work on black holes involves holes that are completely dark. Although there is no sound in space, Levin said the shape of space wobbles, which is thought to happen when two black holes orbiting around each other cause a ringing of space. Studying these sounds is ongoing with new discoveries to come, Levin explained.

## ART, SEX, AND AMERICAN CULTURE

The next speaker was Pamela Cobrin, senior lecturer in English and director of the writing and speaking programs, who gave alumnae a look at her first-year seminar. "My students find out that when we talk about sex and its influence on culture, what we're really talking about is how we understand the evolution of our national identity—from its earliest history on—through the lens of sexual and gender norms," said Cobrin. "How does our culture define itself by regulation of gender and sexuality?"

"Gender and sexuality always intersect with race, class, and ethnicity," she added. "We read theories, plays, novels, newspaper articles, and advertisements from American history." Cobrin read from a book by French philosopher Michel Foucault, in which he referred to sexuality as "an especially dense transfer point for relations of power."

"How sexual relationships are stamped as normative in our culture is about relation to power—who has it, who gets to judge, what does and does not count as normative behavior," she noted. "Marriage as an institution and its place in American history serves as an excellent touchstone for any discussion about sex and power within our culture."

Theatre too provides landmarks as to gender and sexuality norms in America. "What's scandalous one year is commonplace a few years later," she said. "Because of its position and having a voice, but without the task of regulating public behavior, theatre was often seen as suspect by varying political and religious views as well as mainstream culture, up until the mid-20th century."

How authorities treated theatrical productions also provides insight into how sex, gender, race, class, and ethnicity were seen at a given historical period. Cobrin concluded with a reference to Margaret Sanger's birth-control mission of the early 20th century and how challenges she faced can be examined in a cultural context.







## HAITI IN THE WESTERN IMAGINATION: OF POVERTY, ZOMBIES, AND OTHER CONTAGIONS

Kaïama Glover, associate professor of French, was the next speaker, and focused on Haiti past and present. “Since the January 2010 earthquake in the Caribbean, Haiti’s become something of a superstar, a cause célèbre,” Glover noted. The images shown to the world of devastation and poverty depicted the people of Haiti as desolate. Four and a half years later, little has changed in terms of how Haiti is seen by most Americans.

“What I’m going to suggest is that ever since the island nation’s revolutionary beginnings in 1791 to 1804, when it became the first black republic in the world, the nation has been more or less subtly Africanized in the media,” Glover said. “There are a number of very uncanny commonalities [in] the images of Haiti and images of Africa, the ones that were constructed and circulated, particularly during the 1980s.” Glover referred to television ads from the 1980s and ’90s for charities such as Save the Children and Christian Children’s Fund, which featured narration by American celebrities—usually white—while images of desperately poor black children were shown, amid pleas of how they needed help and guidance.

Making the issues surrounding Haiti more acute is its close proximity to the United States—only about 700 miles off the coast of Florida. This highlights the issues of race, faith, and poverty, and the fear that these could directly “infect” the U.S.


“I want to highlight some particular elements of this idea of threatening, encroaching, needing to be contained, poverty and misery,” Glover said. “These portrayals...in some ways relate to Hollywood reconstructions of other examples of masses of people that are encroaching [on] the gates of civilization.”

## CONFRONTING THREAT WHEN SAFETY CONCERNS ARE PARAMOUNT

The final micro lecture was by psychology professor Steven Stroessner, who spoke on how people perceive and react to danger. “We are all prompted with signals in our environment that suggest we’re in danger,” explained Stroessner. “When we’re faced with a threat that seems...imminent, we often feel compelled to act. However, threats are often vague, ambiguous, or confusing.”

Stroessner studies how reactions may be shaped based on certain stereotypes, which has particular relevance in policy discussions. “Debates are informed by political analysis, legal analyses, a variety of perspectives. We’ve also argued there are psychological variables involved here as well...We’ve been pursuing the possibility that a person’s dominant motivational concern can contribute to determining policy preferences.”

There are two motivational systems, Stroessner explained: the promotion model, where focus is on gains versus nongains, and the prevention system, where focus is on losses versus nonlosses. The systems coexist, with one tending to dominate based on an individual’s background. In 2013, he did an experiment gauging opinions on Iran’s nuclear program. Manipulating the focus—either promotion or prevention—impacted responses. “This suggests that psychological motivation plays an important role in some of the political debates we have,” he said. “Motivation and threat combine to move back support for various public policies. This also suggests that political issues can be discussed and described in ways that produce more activist approaches... [which] might provide prevention-focused people with a sense of security, even though those approaches might themselves increase risk down the road.”



*“Being around a bunch of smart women and participating in conversations with them reminds you that you’re a smart woman. The world doesn’t often give you that.”*

—Frances Sadler ’72

*“It’s an incredibly important exercise to be able to have some sort of sense of your relevance or your resonance outside the four walls of a classroom and to get some feedback as to what these things...mean in a wider space.”*

—Kaïama Glover  
Associate Professor of French





# ALUMNAE AWARD WINNERS

The Alumnae Association of Barnard College recognizes 11 women for their outstanding careers and volunteer contributions

## WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT

### 1 Laurie Anderson '69

Internationally acclaimed performance artist, composer, and musician considered a pioneer in electronic music...Works include *United States Live* (1983), *Empty Places* (1990), *The Nerve Bible* (1995), *Songs and Stories From Moby Dick* (2000), and an orchestra, *Songs for Amelia Earhart* (2000)...NASA's first artist in residence, culminating in her 2004 performance *The End of the Moon*...Recent pieces include *Homeland* and *Delusion*...Contributed music to films by Wim Wenders and Jonathan Demme; to dance pieces by Bill T. Jones and Trisha Brown...Collaborated with Interval Research Corporation on creative tools, including the *Talking Stick*...Her *Self-Playing Violin* was acquired by the Museum of Modern Art...Awards include 2007 Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize for outstanding contribution to the arts...Currently artist in residence at UCLA and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

bureau chief for Lebanon and Syria based in Beirut; prior to working in Beirut, was AP's East Africa bureau chief in Nairobi...Began her AP career in 2000 in Trenton, N.J., and later became an editor on the AP's national and international desks in New York...Winner of the AP's Gramling Award for outstanding staff members and 2012 journalism award for her role in covering Syria's civil war

## MCINTOSH AWARD FOR FEMINISM

### 3 Leslie Calman '74

CEO of Engineering World Health...Former executive director of the Mautner Project, a lesbian-health organization...Member, executive committee of the board of the National Coalition for LGBT Health...From 2005–2007, vice president for external relations at the International Center for Research on Women...Executive vice president at NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund from 1998–2005...Author of two books on social movements in India...Director of the Barnard Center for Research on Women, 1991–1998

## MCINTOSH AWARD FOR FEMINISM

### 4 Nancy Biberman '69

Founder and director of the Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation, providing housing, job training, and other services in the Bronx...Conceived, financed, and built Intervale Green, the nation's largest multifamily, Energy Star–certified, affordable housing complex, and Urban Horizons, housing created in a renovated hospital...Graduate of Rutgers Law School...In 1976, member of a legal team that won the first class-action suit for access to the court system and police protection for battered women

## SERVICE TO BARNARD

### 5 Ruth Musicant Feder '49

Longtime volunteer, serving as alumnae class president, chair of the Leadership Council committee, and vice president/Reunion chair for her class leading up to its 50th reunion...Former member, AABC board and President's Advisory Council...Served several terms on the Annual Giving committee...Two-time cochair, the annual benefit for the Barnard division of Everybody's Thrift Shop...Regular phonathon participant

## QUINTESSENTIAL

### 2 Elizabeth Kennedy '99

Associated Press South Asia news director based in New Delhi...Previously AP





#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

##### **6 Beth Seidenberg '79**

General partner since 2005 at Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, a life sciences venture-capital firm...MD from University of Miami...Former vice president of Merck Research Laboratories...In 1999 named senior vice president for global development at Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute...In 2002 moved to Amgen, Inc., where she became senior vice president for development and chief medical officer...Named a Woman to Watch by *Fortune* magazine in 2004...Member, Barnard's Science Advisory Council; from 2005–2010, member of Barnard's board of trustees

#### SERVICE TO BARNARD

##### **8 Georgianna Pimentel Contiguglia '64**

Newly elected class president...Alumnae admissions representative in Colorado for more than 10 years...Vice president/ Reunion chair for the five years leading to her 30th reunion...Regular service on class planning and fund-raising committees for Reunion...Chaired class nominating committee for two five-year cycles...Member, national committee of the Campaign for Barnard...Former AABC director at large...Curator and former president and CEO, Colorado Historical Society

#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

##### **9 Sheila Abdus-Salaam '74**

Associate judge, New York State Court of Appeals, state's highest court...Prior to that, judge in the State Supreme Court's Appellate Division, beginning in 2007...Graduate, Columbia Law School...Joined Brooklyn Legal Services, then became assistant attorney general in the New York State attorney general's civil rights bureau...General counsel, New York City Division of Labor Services...In 1991, elected to the New York City Civil Court; in 1993, to the State Supreme Court...Former vice president, Columbia Law School Board of Visitors...Honors: Columbia Law School BLSA Distinguished Alumni Award; Lawrence A. Wien Prize for Social Responsibility...Served on the boards of several organizations, including Harlem Legal Services

#### SERVICE TO BARNARD

##### **10 Amy Lai '89**

Worked with classmates to provide stipends for summer internships on Wall Street, then established the Amy Lai '89 Internship Fund...Alumnae member of the board of trustees, 2001–2005...Former member of the President's Advisory Council...Member, AABC Awards committee; inspiring speaker at the 2001 Torchbearers reception...In 2008, cohosted the student-alumnae event marking National Coming Out Day...Speaker at the Reunion 2012 LGBTQ Tea...Recent cofounder, Edex Recovery Solutions investment advisory firm

#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

##### **11 Louise Heublein McCagg '59**

Internationally renowned sculptor...Solo exhibitions around the world include shows at the Center for Creative Arts, Michigan State University; A.I.R. Gallery and the Sculpture Center, New York; Nippon Kan Theater, Seattle; Petofi Museum of Literature and Saint Stefan Museum, Budapest; and Handlung, Hamburg...In 2009, collaborated with Hungarian filmmaker Peter Forgacs on a multimedia project presented at the Venice Biennale...Collaborator with South African artist Senzeni Marasela in a performance and exhibition at A.I.R. Gallery in 2010...Supporter of the visual arts program at Barnard, establishing the Louise Heublein McCagg '59 Gallery in The Diana Center...Former member of the College's Arts Advisory Council

#### SERVICE TO BARNARD

##### **7 Margarita (Ari) Brose '84**

Fund chair for 15th reunion, when the class set a record for contributions...Past president, AABC...Former trustee, serving for two years as Audit committee chair...Served on the Athena Leadership Council advisory board...Chaired AABC Careers committee...In 1996 was the youngest donor to date to set up an endowed scholarship fund...In 2003 offered a challenge grant to encourage participation in the Senior Fund...Recipient of the Columbia University Medal for Service and the Columbia Varsity Athletics Alumni Award...Undergraduate captain of the first joint Columbia-Barnard women's cross-country and track-and-field teams and a founder of a cappella group Bacchantae

# ON THE MOVE



"Look,  
before you can  
have paintings or  
before you can have  
music, before you can have  
poetry, before you can have  
language, you've got to  
have movement."

**Twyla Tharp**

Few dancers, let alone dance students, ever get to perform the New York premiere of a work created by such an iconic choreographer as Twyla Tharp '63. But several students in the College's dance department had such an opportunity last semester, presenting the New York debut of Tharp's new dance, *Treefrog in Stonehenge*. One of the most esteemed and well-recognized choreographers of the 20th century, Tharp will return to Barnard as a Distinguished Guest Artist for the 2014–15 academic year. The students worked with Tharp *répétiteurs* (dancers who teach steps) Rika Okamoto and Alexander Brady, then performed *Treefrog in Stonehenge* in April as part of Barnard Dances at Miller. Before the performance, Tharp held a lecture-demonstration, talking through her process of creating the dance while demonstrating its various facets. In honor of the event, Katie Glasner, cochair of Barnard's dance department, discussed with Tharp the process of making a dance, the difference between ballet and modern dance, and how Tharp set about creating *Treefrog in Stonehenge*.

## MOVEMENT/HOW IT WORKS

**Katie Glasner** *How do you create a dance?*

**Twyla Tharp** Moving. Moving tells me what the idea is. I started walking when I was 2...and every dance that I've ever done is a technical exercise. I don't have a stabilized technique that generates pieces for each new adventure in the making of a dance. Obviously, this is different in the ballet where we have the *glissades* and the *cabrioles* and the *grand battements*, and all of those predetermined directions for movement. In dance we just have, like, go.

**KG** *You had your first thrust into really popular culture when you merged ballet and modern dance in Deuce Coupe [Tharp's 1973 piece for the Joffrey Ballet, set to Beach Boys music]. Do you have thoughts about your work being considered crossover ballet, a ballet that merges with other forms?*





1 Twyla Tharp in *Fait Accompli* (1983) accompanied by Shelley Washington (left) and Katie Glasner (right) 2 Rika Okamoto illustrates movements at the lecture-demonstration. 3 Twyla Tharp's lecture-demonstration 4 Katie Glasner, dance department cochair 5, 6 Students perform Twyla Tharp's *Treefrog in Stonehenge*.

**TT** I had an eclectic training as a child, and it was always the goal that the dancers should be able to step across the fences. When I came here and began studying in the '60s, you were either a classical dancer or you were a modern dancer. And this made no sense to me. And so I never respected the barricade between so-called modern dance and so-called ballet.

**KG** Now, as a field, we're an incredible melting pot. There aren't those divisions anymore. I'd like to move on to talking about your return to Barnard. We are very fortunate in the dance department and the College with your coming here next year as the Distinguished Guest Artist. I see this as being an area that could be equally as productive for our students, our faculty, as it is you. I'm curious about what this particular association does for you.

**TT** I'm not so sure it's about me as it is about the discipline, the discipline of dance, and what dance is in our lives. The reality is that people have not got the connection with movement that could be available to them, simply because they don't have any concept about the number of ways that it touches on their everyday existence. The challenge for me is to help people see that movement is something that has many lessons in it—not just physical lessons—that are very, very valuable. And this is what dance is, because dance is the fundamental form. I always say, "Look, before you can have paintings or before you can have music, before you can have poetry, before you can have language, you've got to have movement."

**KG** I often think the biggest compliment

dancers, choreographers, get—people who are facile with their bodies—is that anybody thinks they can do it.

**TT** Well, that's the point. They should be able to do it. Does anybody really think they're going to do Astaire? No. But could they approach what Astaire is doing? Yes. Could they move to the right, the left? Could they circle? Could they even do it rhythmically, accurately to some degree? Would it be valuable? Absolutely. I don't see dance as being the private domain of the dancer.

Everyone moves. We know this from *The One Hundreds* [Tharp's piece made up of 100 discrete 11-second movements], which is a piece that was made for anyone to do...as a kind of expression of the sharing of movement. It's good to show that there's a spectrum, from almost

*Continued on Page 53*

# LEAVING A MARK ON CAMPUS

Students' mural captures the many facets of Barnard life

For Adrienne Nel '16, the Barnard campus, although steeped in the arts and located in New York City, seemed to be missing something. An art history major, she believed that something was a permanent student-art installation. As the Student Government Association's representative for arts and culture (a position created last year), Nel and her newly recruited committee implemented her idea for a mural designed and painted exclusively by students. The mural would be in The Diana Center, and the group created an application to find student artists to bring the idea to fruition. This application not only asked about candidates' experience, but also invited them to think about art on the Barnard campus in a 250-word essay.

From a field of 15 applicants, the SGA committee selected four artists: Sasha Brenman '16, Asia Cunningham '17, Rachael Dottle '16, and Joanne Raptis '16. One of the unusual features of the project was that the artists worked collaboratively on the mural, rather than dividing the wall into four distinct quadrants, as is often the practice when several artists create a mural. "The whole point of having a mural on campus is to be inclusive of many styles, to get as many artistic styles...as possible that could mesh together," says Nel.

The student artists quickly figured out how to work together. They uploaded

sketches to a computer and made joint decisions about what subjects to include in the work and where to place them. During the final few weeks of last semester, when the artists did the actual painting, each would essentially hand off sections to another artist in overlapping shifts. One student would draw a figure, another might draw a building, and then a third would paint in the forms.

"There were many different styles, [all] with a similar vision," says psychology major Raptis. "The final vision is very different from what each of us imagined.

That's a good thing. The mural benefited from many insights. The multiple minds at work contributed to the mural's creative energy."

Adds Brenman, who created her own major in computer science and visual arts, "We all put work into every single part of it. Most art is done solo, where you have control over a piece of canvas or a piece of the wall. Here, we could feed off each other."

The mural took about a year to complete, starting with the planning during the fall of 2013 and the application







In the photo (from left): Dean of the College Avis Hinkson, Asia Cunningham, Sasha Brenman, Joanne Raptis, Rachael Dottle, Barnard President Debora Spar, Adrienne Nel, Emily Shoyer, and Alina Wong at the official unveiling of the mural on the third floor of The Diana Center

process in winter. The designing itself took most of spring semester. Transferring the drawings to the wall and the actual painting took the latter part of the term. By the last few weeks of the semester, the student artists often worked around the clock.

The mural adorns the wall outside the student-life office on the third floor of The Diana Center. The SGA, through Associate Dean of Student Life Alina Wong, obtained permission for the wall painting from Dean of the College Avis Hinkson '84 and Vice President of

Campus Services Gail Beltrone. The brightly colored mural features images of students reading, painting, dancing, knitting, and otherwise engaged in arts, against iconic images of the campus (like the gates and several hidden figures of Millie the Bear), musical notes representing the Barnard song, "College on the Hilltop," as well as significant New York landmarks, such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Lincoln Center, the 1 subway line, and others that are perhaps more obscure to the casual observer.

The organizers and artists were

especially sensitive to how students were represented in the mural. "We wanted to include portraits, but not represent specific people," says Wong, who serves as adviser to the SGA.

The students enjoyed the process of painting, especially with a daily audience; a key aspect was "the excitement of people walking by," says Dottle, an environmental science and urban studies major who has "been really involved in art" and had worked on murals in Boston as part of her gap year with AmeriCorps. "It was so public. It was exciting to see people's reactions."

That sort of engagement also mattered to Cunningham. "It wasn't just something I did for myself," she says. "This is for all the campus and everyone who is a part of the Barnard community." As Raptis sees it, this is one way to "leave a footprint at Barnard, a mark at Barnard." And at least for now, "this is definitely meant to be permanent," says Emily Shoyer '17, incoming chair for the SGA's committee on arts.

Having a student mural on campus, in the student center, is significant, says Wong. "Barnard, as a campus community, belongs to the students. This is about claiming space for students and seeing themselves in their space. It's about capturing the sorts of moments and images that are symbolic of Barnard and New York."



# Art and Soul

## Class of 2014 restores luster of historic campus statue

Mention “the runner” to a Barnard alumna, and you’ll likely elicit a nod of appreciation and recognition. “She’s always watching over us. She’s always lighting up [the] campus with her torch,” says Jennelle Fong ’14, of the bronze statue, which depicts a larger-than-life young woman sprinting as she passes a torch. The sculpture, by Chester Beach, known for his portrait busts and medallic art, was a gift to the College by the Class of 1905 to mark the 25th anniversary of the Greek Games in 1928. It now beautifies a shaded corner of the campus along the walk to Milbank Hall.

This iconic figure of College life, also known informally as the “the torch bearer” but officially named the *Spirit of the Greek Games*, has graced the glossy pages of Barnard brochures and magazines and appeared in countless alumnae photo albums. But over the decades, the bronze began to show signs of age, with a powdery-looking greenish tinge sweeping over it and seeping into its marble base.

Enter the Class of 2014, which came to the rescue with its class gift. “It’s the most prominent art on campus,” declares Fong, who was cochair of the 2014 Senior Fund, which paid for a facelift of the statue. The fund hired the renowned New York conservation firm Steve Tatti, which restored the patina on the Statue of Liberty and refurbished the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, among thousands of other monuments. The Barnard commission included cleaning up the sculpture’s base, filling in its gold lettering, and carefully restoring the bronze while leaving some of the discoloration of a weathered artwork.

This restoration was one of two gifts to the College from the Class of 2014, which achieved an impressive participation rate of 73 percent and raised a total of



\$26,000. The fund included challenge-grant contributions from Dean of the College Avis Hinkson, Senior Class Dean Natalie Friedman, the Athena Center, and alumnae. The Class of '14 is also providing financial aid in the amount of \$17,000 to a student in the Class of 2018. At their first reunion, the class leaders plan to unveil a plaque on the statue noting the contribution, and will invite the student recipient to join them.

The accomplishments of the Class of 2014 reflect students' increasing involvement in the Senior Fund. The Class of 2009 fund also had a high participation rate—77 percent. Class leaders presented their gift, a decorative fountain in the

courtyard of the Quad, at this year's Reunion. This class fund raised \$35,581, thanks to student contributions as well as income from challenge grants and gifts from parents and friends, according to Amy Leveen, Barnard's director of annual giving. Two decades or so ago, a much smaller percentage of graduating seniors participated in their Senior Fund.

One of the 2014 challenge grants came from Mary Ann LoFrumento '77, who recently finished a three-year term as president of the Alumnae Association of Barnard College. LoFrumento offered to donate \$2,014 when the class participation rate reached 70 percent. LoFrumento says she didn't often think about the *Spirit of*



the *Greek Games* when she was a student. Now she sees it in a new light, as a sort of feminist image, “a strong woman running with a powerful torch upheld.” She adds, “When the senior class chose to restore it, I looked at it differently. I saw it as a link to the past and to the future. I was literally passing the torch as I left the presidency.”

The sculpture itself suggests two time periods. The woman depicted resembles a student of the 1920s, while her tunic recalls the clothing of antiquity. Margarete Bieber, who was teaching at Barnard at the time and was a consultant for the *Greek Games* costumes, likely helped with the design of the runner’s garments, according to Larissa Bonfante ’54, an emerita professor of classics at New York University.

Even before the runner’s recent restoration, the Class of ’14 established a special bond with the sculpture. The *Greek Games*, which the statue celebrates, flourished as a competition in athletic events and poetry between first years and sophomores every spring from 1903 and 1967. In 2011 and 2012, the Class of ’14 attempted to reinstate the games, albeit with a modern twist; on the rooftop of The Diana Center, “competitors” unwound in a session of “yoga in a toga.”

While the modern *Greek Games* didn’t carry on beyond those two years, some essence of the event endures in a new tradition known as Spirit Week, several days of parties and events celebrating all things Barnard, according to Malvina Kefalas ’14, cochair of the Senior Fund. She says that although “the tradition of the *Greek Games* has faded,” its spirit of community continues.

Kefalas, who is studying Greek in Greece this summer, says the restoration lent a buoyant tone to finals week, when the restoration work was completed. “There were so many excited text messages,” she says, with students writing, “OMG, I can’t believe this is happening.” Notes Kefalas, “It’s nice to leave the campus a little brighter than we when arrived.”

# Annual Gala 2014

**Alumnae and friends of Barnard College gathered at New York’s Plaza Hotel in April to benefit the College’s financial-aid program, and to honor Dorothy Urman Denburg ’70 and Constance Hess Williams ’66, who both received the Frederick A. P. Barnard Award. Nina Rennert Davidson ’95 and Cheryl Glicker Milstein ’82 P ’14 served as the event’s cochaIRS; Mai Eldib ’08, a consultant at Sotheby’s, acted as the auctioneer for scholarships. Close to \$2.5 million was raised for scholarships. “For many of our students, scholarship aid makes the dream of attending Barnard a reality,” said Barnard President Debora L. Spar. “The support we receive from alumnae, families, and friends is truly invaluable.”**

**Photos** (Read from left): 1 Dylan McDermott P ’17 and President Spar 2 Board Chair Jolyne Caruso-FitzGerald ’81 and Purnima Puri 3 Rafael Ramirez CC ’16, Gianni LaTange ’16, Rosara Torrisi ’09, and Lida Orzeck ’68 4 P. Roy and Diana Toulaitou Vagelos ’55 5 Mai Eldib 6 Rhoda Scharf Narins ’62 and Valerie Narins Malsch 7 Danielle Lefkowitz ’19, Emily Shoyer ’17, Daniella Greenbaum ’17, Cynthia Nixon ’88, Ophira Platt ’12, Aviva Beuchler ’11, Dorothy Denburg, and Talia Lefkowitz ’16 8 Caroline Spencer Spanos ’09 9 Allen and Nicole Salmasi P ’17 10 Cheryl Milstein, Nina Davidson, Dorothy Denburg, Debora Spar, and Constance Williams 11 Jada Hawkins ’16; Kathryn Kolbert, Constance Hess Williams director, Athena Center for Leadership Studies; Amy Chen ’10; and Kelly Ann Taddonio ’10





## Connecting Across Continents

Dear Alumnae,

After celebrating my 35th reunion with more than 1,500 fellow alumnae from near and far, I was reminded that Barnard is like a home that welcomes us back with open arms and provides new opportunities for learning, laughter, and friendship. This year, I was fortunate to share Reunion with three friends who had never come. To their surprise, it was even better than advertised. After attending the micro lectures by Barnard faculty and our Friday-night class dinner, and seeing the "Mentors, Muses & Monsters" alumnae storytelling performance, one friend remarked that she could kick herself for not having attended Reunion before.

At Reunion, I met alumnae who had traveled from South Africa and England. Yet another came all the way from Australia. One of my goals as incoming president is to ensure that Barnard's wonderful programs are more accessible to all alumnae, regardless of where they live. To that end, we filmed the engaging exploration of the everyday challenges of American women delivered by Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Trustee Emerita, and Chair Emerita Anna Quindlen '74. Please watch the video at the alumnae affairs YouTube channel or at [alum.barnard.edu](http://alum.barnard.edu).

As we embark upon the 125th anniversary of the College's founding, we invite you to help Barnard celebrate its rich history and become part of its exciting future. Visit [125.barnard.edu](http://125.barnard.edu) to follow the events and share your memories. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 26, when we will celebrate Founders Day. From its beginning, the College has shaped women leaders by teaching them to think critically and creatively, communicate their ideas effectively, dream big, and act on those dreams. As Nancy Biberman '69, recipient of a Millicent Carey McIntosh Award for Feminism, reminded us, we share a history of women making trouble. It is through making trouble that we can make the world a better place. During our quasiquicentennial, we will look back on the amazing contributions of Barnard alumnae who have not only made trouble, but also made a difference in the world.

We encourage you to let the AABC enrich your life by taking advantage of opportunities to make connections with other alumnae and to serve and support the future leaders of tomorrow, our amazing Barnard students. We are planning an exciting year of programs and activities for alumnae and volunteer leaders to be shared with you in the coming months.

I look forward to serving the 34,000 alumnae in 96 countries around the globe. Join me in supporting the AABC and the College as we embrace our history and build upon our future.

Sincerely,

**Terry S. Newman '79**



# Fellowships for Graduate Study

Each year, the Edith and Frances Mulhall Achilles Memorial Fund generously provides graduate fellowship grants for outstanding alumnae. The application and interview process is overseen by the Fellowship Committee of the Alumnae Association of Barnard College (AABC). Finalists are chosen based on academic excellence, quality of references, and postgraduate goals, among other criteria. The following five alumnae are the recipients of the 2014 Edith and Frances Mulhall Achilles Memorial Fellowships for Graduate Study.

**2014-2015 FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION**  
Applications and additional information for the 2014-2015 fellowships are available online at [alum.barnard.edu/fellowship](http://alum.barnard.edu/fellowship). **Completed applications are due by Friday, November 14, 2014.** Questions can be directed to Alumnae Affairs at 212.854.2005 or [alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu](mailto:alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu).

## Elizabeth (Lizzy) De Vita '08



After earning her degree in English and art history, Lizzy De Vita spent five years working full time for a nonprofit organization that supports artists in Haiti. During that time, she also worked as an artist, participating in solo and group shows. In 2013, Lizzy was accepted to the MFA program at Yale University's School of Art, where she is pursuing a degree in sculpture. Her most recent work aims to use a variety of media, including installation, video, sound, sculpture, and performance, as a means of developing broader explorations of time and space.

## Ana Isabel Keilson '05



Ana Keilson is a Columbia University doctoral candidate in the history department, where she studies intellectual history and the history of dance. Her dissertation, which explores dance and politics in Germany from 1900-1935, is titled "Organizing Expression," and examines the role of knowledge systems among German modern-dance choreographers and critics. While at Barnard, Ana participated in the Writing Fellows Program and was a member of the Slavic Honor Society. She was elected Phi Beta Kappa and graduated with a degree in English.

## Nanette N. Jarenwattananon '11



Nanette N. Jarenwattananon graduated from Barnard with a degree in chemistry and is now pursuing her PhD at UCLA. While Nanette's primary research focuses on the development of novel magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) techniques to visualize chemical reactions in real time, she

is also collaborating with UCLA's Iruela-Arispe research group to develop MRI methodologies to image cell growth in a bioreactor.

## Haeri (Heddy) Nam '04



After earning a BA in political science and human rights studies, Heddy Nam spent more than four years at Amnesty International and almost three years with Open Society Foundations—seven years dedicated to social-justice advocacy and the furthering of international human rights. Deciding to return to graduate studies, Heddy was accepted to the University of Southern California and is now a candidate for a public-policy degree. She is currently a graduate researcher at both the Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration and the Program on Environmental and Regional Equity. She has also become a socially active member within her new Los Angeles community, helping to tackle issues of immigrant rights, low-wage-worker rights, and racial injustice.

## Judith Vick '08



Judith Vick graduated with a degree in comparative literature and is now a first-year medical student at Johns Hopkins University. In 2012, she conducted a research project in conjunction with the Ariadne Labs at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Serious Illness Care Program at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, studying end-of-life communication among physicians, patients, and families. In addition to continuing her research this summer, she will also study the construction of gender in 19th-century case narratives in American medical journals.

## Honored for Service

Virginia Bloedel Wright '51 and Philippa Feldman Portnoy '86 BUS '90 each received the Columbia Alumni Association Medal for their years of service to Barnard, the highest award bestowed by the Columbia Alumni Association. The medals were presented in a ceremony at Columbia University's commencement.

### Virginia Bloedel Wright '51



majoring in art history and credits Barnard for inspiring her love of art. After college, Wright worked in the Sidney Janis Gallery. In 1955, she and her

family moved to Seattle, where Wright became active with the Seattle Art Museum. In 1992, she joined Barnard's board of trustees, chairing the endowment campaign from 1998–2000. Now, as a trustee emerita, Wright continues her support of the arts at Barnard. The Virginia B. Wright Art History Prize is awarded annually to a promising senior art history major, and the Virginia Bloedel Wright '51 Professorship of Art History was established by her husband, Bagley, in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. Her daughter, Merrill Wright '77, is a Barnard alumna, as is her granddaughter, Ada Potter '11. In 2011, Wright gave an important piece of art and the first gift of its kind to Barnard: a marble-bench sculpture, *SELECTIONS FROM TRUISMS (Abuse of power comes...)*, by award-winning conceptual artist Jenny Holzer.

### Philippa Feldman Portnoy '86



BUS '90 is on the Columbia Alumni Association Board and is the vice chair of the CAA Arts Access committee. She is

active at Barnard as a founding member of the Leadership Council of the Athena Center for Leadership Studies and has served on the Barnard Scholarship Dinner committee and the Alma Maters committee of the Alumnae Association. As an undergraduate, she was the captain of the women's tennis team and has remained active in Columbia athletics through the Varsity C Club. She was the first woman Varsity C Club president, the first woman recipient of the Varsity C Alumni Award, and was honored as one of Columbia's most influential athletic alumnae at the Athletic Consortium Silver Anniversary. Portnoy is a cofounder of the Women's Leadership Council for Athletics. Professionally, she ran the Latin American aviation-finance group at Citigroup before leaving in 2000. Portnoy, her husband, Lawrence, and their triplet sons live in New York City.

## AABC ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you for voting in the Alumnae Association elections! Voting ended May 1 and results were announced at Reunion. The new officers' terms began July 1, 2014 and end June 30, 2017. We welcome the following alumnae to the board of directors:

PRESIDENT AND ALUMNAE TRUSTEE  
**Terry Newman '79**

VICE PRESIDENT  
**Francine Benzaken Glick '77**

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE / ALMA MATERS COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Amy Blumberg Schrader '92**

YOUNG ALUMNAE COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Julie Malyn '09**

We are delighted to welcome **Jan Vinokour '72** as Nominating committee chair and SGA President **Julia Qian '15**, who will join the AABC Board of Directors for 2014–2015. The complete board is listed at the right.

We are also pleased to announce that **Lisa Lin '98**, **Nancy McGregor Manne '80**, and **Emmanuelle St. Jean '04** have been elected by the Alumnae Association to the AABC Nominating committee.

## ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The Alumnae Association of Barnard College was established in 1895 to further the interests of the College and connect alumnae worldwide. Learn more online at [alum.barnard.edu](http://alum.barnard.edu).

PRESIDENT & ALUMNAE TRUSTEE  
**Terry Newman '79**

VICE PRESIDENT  
**Francine Benzaken Glick '77**

TREASURER  
**Emily Peterson-Alva '96**

ALUMNAE TRUSTEE  
**Camille Kiely Kelleher '70**

ALUMNAE TRUSTEE  
**Mary Ann LoFrumento '77**

ALUMNAE TRUSTEE  
**Jyoti Menon '01**

ANNUAL GIVING COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Linda Sweet '63**

BYLAWS CHAIR  
**Rosalind Marshack Gordon '62**

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE  
**Leila Rafizadeh Bassi '94**

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE /  
PROJECT CONTINUUM COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Joan Sweet Jankell '58**

DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE /  
ALMA MATERS COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Amy Blumberg Schrader '92**

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Melissa Nathanson '78**

LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Nicole Lowen Vianna '81**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Jan Vinokour '72**

PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Maryam Banikarim '89**

REGIONAL NETWORKS CHAIR  
**Carole LoConte Tedesco '89**

REUNION COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Merri Rosenberg '78**

YOUNG ALUMNAE COMMITTEE CHAIR  
**Julie Malyn '09**

SGA PRESIDENT  
**Julia Qian '15**

## ALUMNAE AFFAIRS

The Alumnae Affairs staff works closely with students and alumnae volunteers to carry out program initiatives and further the mission of the Alumnae Association.

DIRECTOR  
**Erin Fredrick '01**

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
**Carly Sorscher**

PROGRAM MANAGERS  
**Shelli Luchs**  
**Celeste Rivera '04**  
**Susan A. Seigle '67**

PROGRAM ASSOCIATE  
**Lauren Glover '09**

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR  
**Kathleen Christatos '07**

DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT  
**Hayley Peterson '12**



# CLASS NOTES

**For classes without correspondents, send notes to:**

Abigail Beshkin  
*Barnard Magazine*  
Vagelos Alumnae Center  
Barnard College  
3009 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027-6598  
cnotes@barnard.edu

## 1938

We have belated news of the death of **Margaret Jameson Wilson** on March 11, 2003. Though it is late, we send our sympathies to her family and friends.

*Barbara Lake Dolgin*  
150 West End Avenue, Apt. 18D  
New York, NY 10023  
212.874.3234  
bldolgin@alum.barnard.edu

## 1941

**Vera Arndt Bush** passed away on December 18, 2013, at her home in West Simsbury, Conn. Born in 1921 in Hamburg, Germany, Vera grew up in New York City. She studied German literature at Barnard. She worked in the aviation industry for the WW II effort until she married Walter Bush in 1944. She was ordained as a Lutheran minister in 1975, eventually earning a doctor of ministry degree. She is survived by her son and daughter and five grandchildren.

**Kathleen (Kay) Crandall Causey** died on February 11. She majored in English at Barnard, then worked for the Red Cross

in Kunming, China, during World War II. After the war she moved to Monroe, La., and married Alfred Causey in 1947. She founded the Little Red School House in Monroe in the late 1950s. She volunteered as a regional recruiter for Barnard, and was active in the Monroe Garden Club and English-Speaking Union. She is survived by three sons.

**Estelle DeVito-Milio** passed away February 10 at the age of 93 in Baltimore, Md. After graduation, Estelle attended NYU's medical school. She trained in internal medicine and pediatrics, and later in child psychiatry, practicing medicine until her retirement at the age of 84. She also served as president of the Society of Alumni of Bellevue Hospital. In addition, she was an avid traveler and devout Catholic. She is survived by three daughters.

**Marguerite (Peggy) Binder Zamaitis**, of Pompton Plains, N.J., formerly of Old Tappan, N.J., died at the age of 94. After Barnard, she earned a master's at Teachers College and went on to teach at Ridgewood and Bridgeton high schools. She then worked as a corporate secretary for the Exxon Corporation, retiring in 1980. She was a longtime member of Trinity Reformed Church in Old Tappan and was most recently a member of the First Reformed Church in Pompton Plains. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in the name of Marguerite (Peggy) Binder Zamaitis (Class of 1941), Barnard College Annual Fund, 3009 Broadway--Box AS, New York, NY 10027.

## 1942

**Glafyra Fernandez Ennis** lives independently near her daughter in Florence, Mass. Though she no longer competes in badminton tournaments, she

continues to travel and enjoy them as a spectator. She is grateful for her good health, which allows her to live an active life.

**Mabel Campbell** walks from her home at 111th Street in Manhattan to Riverside Church, where she takes exercise classes. She also helps people prepare their income taxes. Mabel continues to enjoy good health.

**Doris Bayer Coster** recommends President Spar's current book, *Wonder Women: Sex, Power and the Quest for Perfection*. Doris said, "You will appreciate her perspective on our experience as well as her wise advice for the current generation of young women."

**Virginia Rogers Cushing** lives at Riderwood, a retirement village in Silver Spring, Md. She enjoys taking advantage of the cultural opportunities of nearby Washington, D.C. She works with a trainer, who is helping her regain strength after her hip-replacement surgery in the summer of 2011. She is an avid reader of mysteries.

**Felice Wasell Ichniowski** passed away in April 2013 at the age of 92. After Barnard, she earned a master's from Teachers College and taught junior high and high school. She married Casimir Ichniowski in 1951, and the two moved to Baltimore, where they raised four sons.

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## 1943

If you live in the metropolitan area you no doubt saw the obituary for **Judith Protas** in *The New York Times* on January 12. She was known for the slogan, "You don't have to be Jewish to love Levy's Real Jewish

Rye!" Judy was a copywriter for the *Barnard Bulletin*. She earned her master's at Yale. She went on to become an executive at DDB Worldwide in the city. If you still have our yearbook, she is the bright-eyed prom-goer alighting from the car on the left side of the prom page.

**Eileen Otte Ford** is working with a much-published British writer on her biography. If any of you have memories of Eileen and of Barnard during wartime, they would like to have them. Call, write, or e-mail me for contact information.

I was pleased to see "Fine Tuning a Career in Music" in the winter issue of *Barnard Magazine*. Jean Zeiger Cunningham '50 was my roommate at Reunion last year. She frequently attends Reunion even when it's not her year, then stays on to take in the theatre scene in the city. I certainly lucked out by having her companionship in 2013.

**Fannette Houston Luhrs** is about as far away from Barnard as she can get and still be in the lower 48 states—Seattle, Wash. I was looking at a directory of our class and noticed that her address was the same as that of one of my oldest friends. So I called her up. Like many of us, she has moved to be near one of her children. Also like many of us, she was busy organizing her "stuff" and throwing out the dross. Lots of luck with that, Fannette! I have visited her at Hearthstone Retirement Living at Green Lake and can vouch for the food and spectacular view.

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## 1944

Another cloudless blue day for our 70th reunion. An occasion of wonder! A sprinkling of scholars from other '40s years joined these classmates of ours for tea with President Spar and, of course, photography: **Nancy Ward Berry, Jean Vandervoort Cullen, Carmel Prashker Ebb, Francoise Kelz, Eleanor Streichler Mintz, Edith Sprung Rose, and Florence Levine Seligman**. Two had to cancel but sent waves of interest and affection: **Robertina (Ina) Campbell** and **Josephine De George**.

The group progressed to the traditional Reunion luncheon in the gym, a roaring wonder of catering and wild enthusiasm for our lives and our college. Great-grandmothers loved the "Barnard Bébé" tee. Awards were made and dessert enjoyed in the Event Oval in The Diana Center.

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## 1945

### 70th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Adrienne Wolfert Lobovits**, who lives in San Francisco, is still active in her life as a published writer. Her most recent work was written in response to the current comment that people do not have the time or patience to read long books. She is right on the mark, and reflects the comments I hear in my book club. In answer to this, her latest offering is an illustrated collection of poems and short stories, *7/Day World: Quick Reads for Busy People*. The title was taken from the old library cards, which were stamped "7-day book." You can keep track of Adrienne's writing on Facebook.

**Avra Kessler Mark**, the class president, has been to the Périgord region in southwest France on a Smithsonian-sponsored trip to view the prehistoric cave paintings. She frequently sees classmates **Phyllis Brand Bangser and Betty Booth Smith**, who both have residences in Westchester.

Your class correspondent spent April at Pelican Bay, Naples, Fla., where I enjoyed visiting again with our classmate **Jane Brunstetter Forsthoff**. We talked with fondness of our days at Barnard and many of you came up in the conversation. Jane's husband, Earle, who is an Annapolis classmate of President Jimmy Carter, suggested that instead of having a meltdown over our 90th birthdays, we should all celebrate "the recycling of our 65th." Jane's extended family has a record number of Columbia University connections (11) starting with her father, who was the provost of Teachers College, and including 10 graduates—siblings, children, and grandchildren. In Naples, I also had a great visit with the two daughters of Monica Wyatt Burnham '44.

Also, to refresh your memory I want to list your class officers: Avra Mark, president; **Ruth Carson West**, vice president for fund-raising; **Hope Simon Miller**, vice president for Reunion; and **Annette Auld Kaicher**, secretary and class correspondent.

May 2015 will mark the 70th anniversary of our graduation. This coming year, I would like to bring the class up-to-date on so many of you who have not sent me your news. Please do, so we can at least have a cyber-paper reunion.

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## 1946

I found **Marilyn Niebergall** in Indianapolis, where she operated a travel agency for many years. She would love to travel more, but needs a pal to go with. Any takers? She majored in government and was able to travel everywhere (except Antarctica) and learn about many cultures. Marilyn heard Stravinsky's *The Firebird* recently, with my bassoonist son, John, playing the haunting berceuse with the Indianapolis Symphony. Small world.

**Ann Sydnor Mull** lives in Springfield, Ill. She was a history and international relations major. Ann's career was with the local housing administration. Ann has an exercise regime that she credits for her good health. Classmates, take notice.

**Emily O'Connor Pernice** lives at Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls, N.J. Her husband, Paul, traveled in his career while Emily stayed at home raising three daughters. Emily was active with American Association of University Women. When Paul retired, they traveled a lot together. However, he recently passed away. Emily has five grandchildren, and enjoys exercising in the pool to the rhythms of Zumba music.

**Patricia Groesbeck Gordon** writes from Cupertino, Calif. She has been at the Forum retirement home for four years. She has eight grandchildren and four greats. Pat remembers **Mary Louise Stewart Reid** fondly and would love to hear from other Barnard alumnae.

**Margaret Clamens Turner** still lives



Barnard, she worked for the publisher Van Nostrand editing scientific texts. Then came marriage and two daughters. Widowhood came early, and Margaret went back to school and earned a master's in French and taught French for quite a while. One daughter survives and she had a beautiful grandson. Old age has not been as kind as we would like, but her positive spirit keeps Margaret active. Her failing eyesight is the most troubling aspect of her life. Books on tape and music keep her spirits up.

I received a note from **Louise (Petey) DuBois Perkins**. She enjoys living in a retirement home in Bethlehem, Penn., and summering in the Berkshires where family and friends gather. For over 30 years she has served as chaplain at the local hospital, volunteering two full days a week. Petey has five children, 10 grandchildren, and two greats.

Enjoy your summer, Class of '46. I would love to hear from you.

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## 1947

Special kudos to **Marguerite Traeris Harris** for her role as class correspondent. Her determination to keep us connected was very successful. Please continue to update me for forthcoming issues.

Join me in remembering our late classmate **Elisabeth Hopkinson O'Connor** of New York City and Sheffield, Mass. Following graduation, she worked as an editorial assistant at such publications as *Town and Country* and *Gourmet*. She also served as an editorial assistant to Ludwig Bemelmans, author of the Madeline children's books. She went on to a career in fundraising, working for the YWCA and the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. She was a member of the Sheffield Land Trust, the Sheffield Historical Society, and Christ Church. She was also a passionate golf and tennis player and an enthusiastic traveler. Her great-granduncle was Frederick Barnard, for whom the College was named.

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## 1948

Thanks to **Helenmae Wolfert Ziegler**, we caught up with **Susan Steketee Freihofer** in Michigan, who was glad to see the end of the harshest winter in recent memory. Susan lives independently in a retirement community, enjoying bridge and other activities. She had a career in a family business and raised three children and two stepchildren. One son lives nearby, and the others are scattered across many states.

**Nancy Ackerson Kowalchuk** was one of six women honored for their contribution to the World War II war effort as civilians in the 1940s. After high school, Nancy worked on the factory line at Wright Aeronautical Co., before entering Barnard. The League of Women Voters and the Bergen County (New Jersey) Board of Chosen Freeholders awarded her a certificate of commendation in recognition of her service and dedication to our nation. Belated congratulations to Nancy. More recently, she happily reported the birth of her first great-grandchild, Katherine Elisabeth Kurtz, last January.

**Genevieve (Lawrie) Trevor Nomer**, long famed for her record-setting mountain bike and camping outings in past summers, has gone to the next level. She and daughter Louise, whom we met at our 65th reunion last year, took a trip to Yellowstone National Park and enjoyed the amenities at Old Faithful Inn.

We're sorry to report the death of **Martha T. Muse** on February 9. She earned a master's in political science from Columbia in 1955, and was awarded an honorary doctorate from Georgetown University in 1981 following a distinguished career that we will summarize only briefly. She was a founding director of the Tinker Foundation in New York City and served as its president and chairman, retiring in 2008. The foundation funded Latin America-related activities, and later supported scientists and policy makers in Antarctica. In addition to serving on numerous corporate and nonprofit boards, Martha was among the first women named to the board of the New York Stock Exchange and the Council on Foreign Relations. She was also elected as a trustee to Columbia University. To think that we shared several history classes when she was at Barnard.

**Helen Allan Archibald** died on March 10. After Barnard, Helen earned two degrees at Union Theological Seminary and was ordained by the Congregational Christian Church, now the United Church of Christ. After serving as pastor in several New York City churches, she earned a doctorate from the University of Illinois. She served on the faculties of Dubuque Theological Seminary in Iowa and the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in Minnesota before retiring to Southern California to be near her extended family, where she taught and preached part time. Our condolences to her sister, Suzanne Chapman, and other relatives and friends. Sadly, Helen's failing health prevented her attending our 65th reunion.

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## 1949

I hope this finds you in good health. I am writing this a few days after attending our 65th reunion, and I am still feeling so happy to have been part of that lovely occasion—so well organized and blessed with nearly perfect weather. I was thrilled to see some of my classmates. Unfortunately, some of you that I had hoped to see there were unable to attend. Here is a list of the '49ers I saw: **Lucille Frackman Becker**; **Nicole Weil Bigar**, who hosted a lovely reception and delicious dinner in her Fifth Avenue apartment; **Marilyn Heggie De Lalio**, our fund chair; **Isabel (Belle) Lincoln Elmer**; **Ruth Musicant Feder**, our president and the recipient of an award for her service to Barnard; **Martha Gross Fink**, who edited and produced our wonderfully informative reunion book; **Anna Kazanjian Longobardo**; **June Ross Marks**; **Helen McLaughlin**; **Helen McShane**; **Marlies Wolf Plotnik**; **Alma Schumacher Rehkamp**, two of whose grandchildren are expert fencers; **Stasha Furlan Seaton**, who recently published a book describing her World War II exploits; and **Janet Cherry Spielman**.

The alumnae of the class of 1949, along with graduates of classes preceding ours, were invited to have tea with President Spar, whose enthusiasm about Barnard is very apparent. Along with the tea we were

very apparent. Along with the tea we were given an orchid corsage, reminiscent of proms and other momentous occasions. Friday's Alumnae Association luncheon in the gym had impossible acoustics, and luckily we walked over to the Oval at The Diana Center for dessert and presentations. There, President Spar mentioned that Barnard this year had the greatest number of applications ever, and that only 20 percent of the applicants were accepted. Also, henceforth, graduations will be held at the spacious Radio City Music Hall. I attended the so-called "micro lectures," and later in the evening, the class dinner, whose highlight was a presentation on the work of sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington (1876–1973), whose work may be seen at various locations in Manhattan. A vast tent on the lawn in front of the library sheltered the informal and delicious Saturday luncheon. Many of us met there and I returned home after that, although festivities continued during Saturday night and Sunday.

I am very sorry to have to announce the passing of five classmates: **Inge Falk Barron** died in June 2008; **Barbara Higbee Robinson** passed away in October 2013; **Beth Harding Scheuerman** died on March 26; **Elizabeth Werth Beyerly** passed away on April 7; and **Mary Nicholson Goldworth** died on April 16. My fellow correspondent, **Rosary Scacciaferro Gilheany**, did not attend Reunion; her very nice husband, Tom, an architect, passed away on April 25.

Best wishes to all my fellow '49ers.  
—YDD

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## 1950

### 65th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Ruth Osborn Daisley** passed away on February 24. We extend our sympathies to her husband. After Barnard, she earned a master's in social work from the University

of Pittsburgh and was planning director for the American Red Cross's Pittsburgh chapter for a number of years. She was also active in her husband's business and her local church.

**Esther Jones** died in March in Oregon. She earned her master's in education at Linfield College and studied in Spain. She taught high school Spanish and, according to her obituary, enjoyed ice-skating, photography, hiking, travel, reading, stamps, and coins.

**Christina Lammers Hirschhorn** is recovering from a stroke in March. We wish her speedy and successful rehab. Her grandson, Paul, is fourth-generation Columbia, after Chris's mother, uncle, and son. Way to go, Chris!

**Marie Noyes Murray** has not let what she calls "a slight stroke" deter her and her husband from their annual snowbird trip to Florida. We add her to the list of recipients of wishes for successful recovery.

**Alice Sterling Honig** gave a lecture at the Jack Reilly Institute for Early Childhood and Provider Education at Syracuse University, titled "Nurturing Early Language." She is the coauthor of the article "Bullied Children: Parents and School Supports." She also finds time to keep in touch with **Eleanor Peters Lubin**, who lives in New Jersey.

**Mary Carroll Nelson** received the Carol Bryant Award for Creativity at the MasterWorks of New Mexico miniature show in Albuquerque.

**Jean Zeiger Cunningham** continues as "head honcho" of the volunteer-run Paramount Theatre Music Library, and was thrilled to be the subject of a profile in *Barnard Magazine's* winter issue. She enjoys some of the many cultural offerings in the Bay Area, especially plays and concerts. Also the weather, although it is not as exciting as in some other parts of the country. —JZC

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## 1951

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## 1952

**Lucille Strick Becker** gets an apology from this correspondent for an error in a prior column. Lucille has four daughters, two of whom are twins, and one son. Lucille's glaucoma is still under control and she's driving.

**Harriet Newman Cohen** has once again been named on the 2013 New York Metro Super Lawyers list as one of the top 50 women lawyers in the greater New York City area. Congratulations, Harriet.

**Lenore Fierstein Berck** and her husband gave up their vacation home in Mexico, and now vacation in the Berkshires. Lenore has retired twice. Her first retirement was from being head of the arts department in the Englewood, N.J., school system. Most recently, she retired from being a docent at the Jewish Museum in New York where, for 15 years, she lectured and led tours.

**Alice La Ferrara D'Ambola** was a music major at Barnard. She has been a piano teacher and has just retired after 39 years of teaching. She loved working with children and thinks students should be treated with kindness. Alice is a member of the Association of Music Educators of New Jersey.

**Athena Devaris Digirindakis** and her husband live in Illinois. At Barnard she was a zoology major, and she spent 18 years as a teacher. She is recovering from a back operation and spends much of her time with nurses and therapists. Her word to all is "stay healthy!"

**Gloria Wyeth Neumeier** sent a wonderful e-mail. She continues to keep in touch with her Korean Barnard roommate, Choon-Nan Lee Yoon '51, who is now 87. Choon-Nan got a doctorate in history and taught for 40 years at Ewha University for Women. Now Gloria's grandson, Will Melbostad, who graduated from UCLA in 2012, is teaching in Kwangju, Korea. Choon-Nan and her son and daughter drove four hours down to Kwangju to meet Will for dinner. Gloria has shared wonderful letters and photos of the event with **Anne**



**Hammes Baren**, with whom Choon-Nan used to spend Christmas vacation. Gloria herself continues teaching international relations in adult-education classes at U.C. Berkeley; University of San Francisco; the YMCA's Centana program in Yangon, Myanmar; and in India. In January, she lectured on a cruise ship along the Vietnam coast and saw former students in Saigon.

The Class of '52 sends its deepest sympathy to the families and friends of the classmates below who have recently died. **Ruth (Bunny) Mayers Gottlieb Goldhaber**, a fine-arts major at Barnard, passed away peacefully on January 18. Her daughter, Nancy, and her two sons, Dan and Andrew, were by her side. Her second husband, Nat Goldhaber, died shortly before Bunny in December 2013. As Bunny and Nat aged, they found New York City harder to cope with. They moved to Dedham, Mass., to be near Bunny's children. Bunny and **Marilyn Rich Rosenblatt** became close friends when they both attended the High School of Music and Art in New York City and then both came to Barnard College.

**Evelyn Failla Rockhill** died at home on February 20. My interview with her appeared in Class Notes in the winter 2014 *Barnard Magazine*. A closing sentence in Evelyn's obituary says, "Mrs. [Evelyn] Rockhill has requested that you plant a tree in your yard or town garden as a lasting legacy to her memory." —NSH

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## 1953

*Our Town*, a local weekly for the Upper East Side, highlighted State Senator Liz Krueger on the front cover of its April 3 issue, naming her "Eastsider of the Year." She was one of 16 New Yorkers recognized for major contributions to the neighborhood. Liz is **Connie Alexander Krueger** and Harvey Krueger's daughter

and has been a senator for 12 years. She has been a passionate and often successful spokesperson for tenants' rights, affordable housing, better health care, and equality for women in general. One of her recent major achievements was the Women's Health and Wellness Act, which allows women to obtain prescription contraceptives, exams for osteoporosis, and breast and cervical cancer screenings. Her district, which extends from 10th Street to 96th Street along Manhattan's east side, is diverse along socioeconomic lines and requires that she address key challenges such as homelessness, hunger, and lack of affordable housing. She has served as chair of the New York City Food Stamp Task Force and as cofacilitator of the New York City Welfare Reform Network. She founded the New York City Food Bank, which is responsible for feeding New Yorkers 5.4 million meals per year. Her parents can be rightfully proud of their two other daughters as well. Cathleen Cohen teaches poetry and art to interfaith groups in Philadelphia. Cathleen's daughter, Rachel Cohen '03, is to be chief resident in pediatrics at the University of Vermont. Connie's daughter Abigail Krueger Bialer '85 has three children, including Hannah Bialer '15. That makes four Barnard women in the family. Connie maintains that her family members "are all do-gooders." Indeed—and how fortunate we all are for their dedication.

**Patience Fish Tekulsky** writes, "Barnard notes always gives me a moment of reflection on where I am in this wonderful life. It was not easy for a quirky outsider to get into Barnard and I am always grateful for the acceptance and persona that I received there. It was an amazing experience. Though not the stellar student that my classmates were, I graduated with a lifelong love of languages and learning and a husband. I met Joe Tekulsky on a blind date with my roommate, **Louise Finkelstein Feinsot**, in 1952. Six months later, Joe and I were married. After more than 30 years in special education for the L.A. school district, I am now retired and watching from the sidelines. It is now time for my four children to change the world. I urge you to check out the books *Three Step Watercolor* by Jo MacKenzie, and *Backyard Bird Photography* by Mathew Tekulsky. Michael is a concert promoter and real estate broker in San Francisco, and J.D. Southward is a designer in Connecticut. I

still love languages, art, music, and travel and wish the same for all my classmates."

Regretfully, I have been notified that **Clare Greenberger Freedman** and **Elisabeth Habsburg-Lothringen** passed away. We very much regret the loss of both. —GSL

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## 1954

Our 60th reunion was, in a word, terrific! We had a wonderful turnout, with more than 30 attending: **Justine Eaton Auchincloss, Marcia Musicant Bernstein** (yours truly), **Rosemary Ronzoni Bisio, Arline Rosenberg Chambers, Florence Muha Cooper, Cynthia Dortz, Marjorie Robbins Friedlander, Ronda Shainmark Gelb, Joan Ghiselin, Doris Dobrow Gilman, Barbara Harris Godt, Sandra Ury Grundfest, Shirley Henschel, Shirley Mintz Horowitz, Isabel Fenster Jacobs, Suzanne Markovits Javitt, Lenore Self Katkin, Geraldine Kirshenbaum Lane, Edith Rand Lauten, Marlene Ader Lerner, Marion Siskind Liebowitz, Mary Casaula Mangieri, Ellen Lee Mangino, Jeanine Parisier Plottel, Marcia Gusten Pundyk, Laura Sheskin Rotstein, Myriam Morgenstein Sarachik, Herberta Benjamin Schacher, Joanne Slater, Renee Koltun Taubman, and Arlene Kelley Winer.**

The weekend began on Thursday, with a wonderful and gracious cocktail party at the home of Jeanine Plottel. We spent the evening reminiscing about all sorts of things, eating delicious hors d'oeuvres and drinking lots of glasses of wine. We saw people who had never come to Reunion as well as those who come every five years. The prize for traveling the farthest distance went to Geraldine Lane, who came from Australia. The conversations could have gone on forever!

From Friday to Sunday, Reunion was

packed with all sorts of activities: There were panel discussions, lectures on various topics, campus tours, tours of The Diana Center (which was a construction site at our last reunion), tours of the archives, etc. We could not attend all of them. Friday afternoon was the Alumnae Association of Barnard College (AABC) luncheon, followed by an award ceremony. My sister, Ruth Musicant Feder '49, was cited for her service to the College. It was an award richly deserved. We took our class picture that evening and followed it up with our class dinner. President Spar came and filled us in on the state of the College. We had a wonderful time just catching up on what we have been doing since our last reunion.

On Saturday, we had lunch with the Class of 2004, a practice initiated in 2009. I think this was, for me, the highlight of Reunion 2014. The Class of 2004 is a remarkable group of women who are doing interesting things. They are doctors, lawyers, architects, women involved in nonprofits, women concerned about climate change, etc. We had a wonderful dialogue with them. I also attended the talk given by Anna Quindlen '74, who discussed the process of aging. As usual, she was funny and informative. There were several classmates in attendance.

I received many compliments on the class book, which attracted 38 interesting and sometimes poignant submissions. I included two lengthy stories of the lives of **Marjorie Gearhart Smith** and **Nancy Huang Wu**, which illustrate the value of a Barnard education. If I may say so myself, the book turned out very well. It was certainly a labor of love for me.

We still have copies available for sale. If you would like a copy, please send a check for \$20 to Barnard College, Vagelos Alumnae Center, 3009 Broadway, New York, NY 10027, and a book will be sent to you. Or e-mail Susan Seigle at [sseigle@barnard.edu](mailto:sseigle@barnard.edu) and ask her to send you a copy.

On Sunday there was a memorial service for those who had died since the last reunion. Our class has lost four classmates since January 1, 2014: **Nora Francke Cammann**, **Audrey Scheinblum Kosman**, **Louise Silbert Lewis**. In 2013, **Anne Russell** passed away. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families. I was also saddened by the news that **Eva Graf Glaser**'s husband of 58 years died on May 29 at the age of 90. We send condolences to her.

We look forward to celebrating our 65th in 2019!

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## 1955

### 60th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

On April 24, **Dawn Lille** graciously hosted our quarterly luncheon in her Gramercy Park apartment. Classmates attending were **Jane Were-Bey Gardner**, **Carol Salomon Gold**, **Doris Joyner Griffin**, **Gayle Abouchar Jaeger**, **Marion Toman Marchal**, **Marcella Jung Rosen**, **Carol Held Scharff**, **Mirella d'Ambrosio Servodidio**, **Louise Cohen Silverman**, **Hessy Levinsons Taft**, and **Joyce Shimkin Usiskin**. Contact Jane Gardner at [myblueboat@aol.com](mailto:myblueboat@aol.com) if you would like to attend an upcoming get-together.

**Audrey Appel Sterenfeld** is happily retired and has been living in Boca Raton, Fla., with her husband, Alan, for the past 17 years. She recently became president of the board of advisors of the Lifelong Learning Society of Florida Atlantic University, which she says is the largest and probably most distinguished "lifelong" program in the United States, having approximately 20,000 annual course registrations in diverse subjects. ("No homework!") Audrey encourages new arrivals to Florida who are looking for intellectual stimulation, as well as for sunshine, to join the ranks.

**Judith Burg Besserman** writes from Jerusalem, where she has been living for 30 years. On the eve of Passover, she emphasizes that "not only is this holiday a time to taste freedom, but its arrival comes at the end of a spring cleaning, the likes of which I never knew in America. Cleaning out *chametz*—literally leaven—is really about cleaning out what has enslaved us in our hearts and in our souls."

"All is well!" says **Josey Cartisser Briggs**, who is retired and in good health. Although she says that she is not doing anything exciting, she manages to keep busy and hopes to see everyone at Reunion next year.

**Mary Brown Cannaday** has five grandchildren (ages 9 to 26), all of whom live in Manhattan. She looks forward to the

2015 reunion "with joy and love," especially because she will be a five-year-cancer survivor by then.

Carol Gold, learning to enjoy life without her husband, Morris, says that friends and family give her love and joy. Her music appreciation class and oil painting workshops nurture her artistic nature, and yoga keeps her strong and centered. Much of her time is "spent in culture frenzy"—operas, plays, concerts, books, museums, and galleries.

**Barbara Lapcek**'s son, Jeffrey Brown, presented the world premier of *Sold*, starring Gillian Anderson, at the San Jose Film Festival in March. It was also chosen as the opening film at many festivals including the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles, London's Indian Film Festival, and the Albuquerque Film Festival, where it also won best film. It was also selected to open the Asian Film Festival at the Asia Society in July. The film, a look at sex trafficking, tells about a 13-year-old girl who is transported to India to work as a prostitute. "Watch for it," says Barbara, who adds that she is very proud of the power it instills in the audience to change the course of sex trafficking worldwide. This is Jeff's first feature film. His previous film won an Oscar in the short narrative film category.

Marcella Rosen reports that *Untold News* now has over 300,000 fans on Facebook. Early in April, she was interviewed by the Salem Radio Network, and an article about *Tiny Dynamo*, the book about *Untold News*, appeared in the *Jerusalem Post*, Christian edition.

**Amy (Amelia) Bleicher Winkler**, who has just been nominated for inclusion in *Best New Poets of 2014*, comments: "Not bad for an 80-year-old lady with white hair!"

On a personal note, I was recently honored by the *Asbury Park Press* for 30 years of service as a regional Spelldown judge. An article about my service, "She's the Queen of the Bee," is at [www.app.com](http://www.app.com).

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## 1956

**Edith Tennenbaum Shapiro** responded to my request for news with a lovely e-mail.



"You will be inundated with mail once the old '56 spirit arises. After all, we are the class that won Greek Games as freshmen, a rare event in those days." She continues: "I am, fingers crossed, able to report that we are on the good side of the curve. Aches and pains, and words and names no longer at the tip of the tongue, multitasking more challenging, etc. But I continue to work and teach, and Sol is as ambitious as ever—writing, and pursuing opportunities to bring some of his previously staged plays back to the theatre." Sol is Sol Stein, whom Edith married 13 years ago, eight years after her first husband, Harris Shapiro, died. "My younger child, Mark, is a classical musician. He conducts the choral ensemble Cantori New York, and was recently appointed to conduct the Cecilia Chorus and Orchestra." Edith's daughter, Lynn Helmer, is a physician, who left private practice to volunteer at a clinic. She and her husband, Ron, an attorney, have three children, all now married. Dan, the oldest and a former Rhodes scholar, is retiring from the U.S. Army, where he served in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Edith traveled to army posts in the U.S., England, and Korea to visit the family, which includes two great-grandsons. "My granddaughter, Rebecca, works for Teach for All as a regional director; she and her husband, Andrew, a writer, are in Hong Kong after spending three years in Bulgaria. David, the youngest, graduated from Stanford with a PhD in mechanical engineering, and with his wife, Janani, a computer wizard, lives in Schenectady. They were married twice—in Hindu and Jewish ceremonies."

#### **Carmen del Pilar Lancellotti**

sends the sad news that her second son, Robert, is struggling with treatment for an inoperable stage-four pancreatic cancer. Carmen writes: "Bill and I, other than being devastated by this news, are still enjoying Williamsburg, Va., volunteering at Colonial Williamsburg as well as at the College of William and Mary. With two grandsons, 6 and 3, courtesy of our daughter and son-in-law, our lives are even fuller. Our oldest son, Edward, still lives in central New York, but plans to relocate down here in the near future. Bill enjoys his garden railroad and we get to as many conventions around the country as we can. My fond regards to my Barnard classmates."

**Gloria Richman Rinderman** writes: "My husband and I have produced two CDs with songs with popular girls' names.

People seem to like songs with their names, and they are downloading our songs on iTunes."

Sad news about **Barbara Gorfinkle Kaplan**, who died of breast cancer last December. Barbara invested both time and money as a community activist, helping preserve institutions such as the Coolidge Corner Theatre and promoting affordable housing. A former executive director of the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation, she kept busy with tap dance, yoga, and Spanish classes after she retired. Her marriage to Robert Kaplan, with whom she had two daughters, ended in divorce. For more than 30 years, Arthur Johnson was her partner in life and work.

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## **1957**

**Natalie Dickman Kutner** passed away on April 8. Her husband, Fred, writes: "Barnard was one of the most important positive influences on her life." After a career in social work, she decided in her fifties to pursue a formal art education, earning an MA in sculpture and then an MFA. Her art reflected her concern about the role of women in our society and she produced a large and coherent body of work. They also had three "wonderful and accomplished" children. We extend our sympathy to Fred, and to Natalie's family and her friends.

**Morrisa Jampole McCoy** wrote: "I am living in the lovely small town of New Smyrna Beach, Fla., with my husband, Don, my cat, Jasper, and my toy poodle, Rocky. We love it in Florida. I started out in New York City, then moved to Columbia, Md., where I worked for Social Security in the SSI program, and now to a really small town. Small-town life suits me. Lots of book clubs, art galleries, forays to Daytona Beach and Orlando for theatre and concerts, walking on the beach, exploring the springs of beautiful Florida. I still remain in touch with my ex-roommates, **Carol Zudiker Alexander** and **Vera Salomon Stein**. I tried volunteering—mentoring in the local junior high, working at the library, secretary of the temple, etc., but prefer following and expanding my own interests. I just started working with clay and am making some

interesting bowls. Many friends, much to do, beats working! My children are doing well and my grandchildren are beautiful and above average. Have three bar mitzvahs this year. I can proclaim, 'Life is good.'"

**Lorraine Arditti Ganon** brings us up-to-date: "I was a psychotherapist in private practice since receiving my MSW in 1986. I had a general practice treating children, adolescents, and adults. I retired when I was 75 and have been active in volunteer work since then. My husband, Larry, and I have been married 58 years and have three adult children. **Shari Kaye Stern** and I have remained close and saw each other April 5 in Florida, where she was attending the bar mitzvah of her grandson."

**Janet Gottlieb Davis** reports: "Life has become complicated and challenging. I am now working in New York with my husband in his construction business, performing administrative duties dealing with insurance, personnel, marketing, etc. We do a lot of work for U.N. countries and get to meet peoples from all parts of the world. We have four grandchildren, two married daughters (one, a Barnard graduate, lives in Vermont and the other lives in L.A.), and an unmarried son who is a psychologist. My other activities outside of work include serving on the board of the New Canaan League of Women Voters, playing duplicate bridge, and often getting together with friends and family. A busy life—I am still waiting for retirement."

A few words from **Marlene Rosenfeld Stanton**: "I get to spend time with Mike and **Gaya Feinerman Brodnitz** while they inhabit their snowbird residence. All three of us enjoyed our annual leisurely lunch with **Natalie (Nina) Wishnia Bunks** and her husband, Abe. While visiting Hal and **Carol Shimkin Sader** in south Florida, I got to lunch with Phil and **Elaine Bernstein Bloom**, who, by a happy coincidence, live right next door to where the Saders were staying." —RSZ

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**Caroline Davis Stoessinger** was honored in Prague for the Czech edition of *A Century of Wisdom*, on Alice Herz-Sommer. Her op-ed on pianist and Holocaust survivor Herz-Sommer at age 110 was published in *The Wall Street Journal* on November 26, 2013.

**Libby Levinson Moroff** and her husband took a trip to Cuba in January. She reports, "It was fascinating, if a little heartbreaking. Still, we had a good time."

**Brenda Schwabacher Webster's** fifth novel, *After Auschwitz*, was recently published. See the events page on alum.barnard.edu for scheduled readings.

**Cassandra Morley Klyman** awaits her fifth step-great-grandchild. She continues practicing psychodynamic psychiatry, forensic consulting, and teaching Ethics in Psychiatry. A review of a book coauthored by Columbia professor Beatrice Beebe '68 will be published this summer.

**Janet Burroway's** memoir *Losing Tim* has just been published in *A Story Larger Than My Own*, which was edited by Janet and includes essays by Barnard graduates Rosellen Brown Hoffman '60, Erica Mann Jong '63, and other well-known writers. New editions of Janet's books, *Writing Fiction* and *Imaginative Writing*, have also just been published.

**Carol Schott Sterling** has been teaching puppetry to a group of autistic children and their parents in East Harlem. She writes, "It is simultaneously challenging and rewarding, especially when the kids have a breakthrough with creativity and/or verbal expression."

**Ellen Loewenstein Boschwitz** joined our class during the 1956–57 year, after her marriage to Rudy Boschwitz. Then came four sons. Ellen ultimately graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1976, and was recently honored as a graduate of distinction.

**Kathryn Penstone** is restoring an octagon house built in Illinois in 1860. This style of home was made popular by a book written by Orson Fowler in 1848. When she moves in, "I will have room for family to visit, including one great-grandchild and another on the way."

**Janice Cohen Honig** and her husband of 57 years have had recent health problems. Daughter Lisa is well and is CEO of Soaringwords.org. One grandson recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin.

Her other grandson is in high school, embarking on all the precollege tests and tensions.

**Diana Rosenberg Engel** retired after many years of practicing law. She has been auditing courses at Georgetown University. One of the professors is a 1988 Barnard alumna. Diana also plays the piano, and went to piano camp in May. In June she traveled with her grandson to Rome and Tuscany.

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## 1959

**Anne Lake Prescott** writes: "I 'retired' this year. I taught a graduate seminar at Columbia on the poetry of Edmund Spenser and a senior seminar at Barnard on utopias and dystopias. I was again blown away by the sheer imagination and brains to be found in Morningside Heights. I also had the pleasure of helping judge Columbia's Joyce Kilmer Memorial Bad Poetry Contest."

**Carol Herman Cohen, Regina Jerome Einstein, Marian Bennett Meyers, and Susan Schwartz-Giblin** headed to Brooklyn to see the **Louise Heublein McCagg** exhibition at the A.I.R. Gallery. Louise was so very gracious and met us there. She spoke to us about many of her works, and afterwards we had lunch in the area.

**Anne Junia Cassell Doan** writes: "I was able to attend a spiritual journey in Ireland and fulfill a lifelong dream of experiencing Yalta while on a cruise around the Black Sea."

**Bongwan (Bonnie) Cho Oh:** "The year 2013 was exceptionally busy. In October, I published my childhood memoir, *Phoenix in a Jade Bowl: Growing Up in Korea*.

Since then, I have held a few book talks in California and in the Chicago area."

**Evelyn Farber Karet** reports: "My new book, *The Antonio Il Badile Album of Drawings: The Origins of Collecting*

*Drawings in Early Modern Northern Italy*, was published by Ashgate of London in March. After seven years of research and writing, I am pleased that this project has come to fruition."

**Erica Harth:** "I have self-published my first work of fiction, a mystery titled *Red Hill Blues*, which is available in both a paperback and Kindle edition on Amazon. The book features two amateur teenage girl sleuths and is set in Croton-on-Hudson, where I grew up. Croton's famous subculture of real leftists exacerbates the hysteria and paranoia of the McCarthy era, creating tensions and intrigue for the plot. I am now a professor emerita of humanities and women's studies at Brandeis University."

Our 55th reunion took place May 29–June 1. Fifty-five women from the Class of 1959 returned for an outstanding weekend. It started with a class cocktail party generously hosted at the beautiful apartment of **Judith Daynard Boies**. The programs and events at Barnard were terrific. Both the speakers and attendees were a special group of interesting women. At the awards ceremony, Louise McCagg received a Distinguished Alumna Award. Susan Schwartz-Giblin and Marian Meyers organized a panel discussion celebrating Barnard and our science and math contributions. Faculty, students, and alumnae participated. The session was very enthusiastically received. New class officers were elected who will serve until our 60th reunion in 2019. They are: copresidents, **Audrey Gold** and **Rosalind Snyder Paaswell**; fund chairs, Carol Cohen and **Jeanette Kotler Specthrie**; class correspondent, Regina Einstein.

It is with great sadness that I share the list of class members we have lost in the past few months: **Miriam Dushman Mazor, Gail Bruce Ward, and Joan Winthrop Cross Hawkins**. At the Reunion memorial service, Carol Cohen spoke of these three special women.

Please send me your news. I will be sending out e-mail notices about our class a few times a year. If you have not already done so, please send your e-mail address to the alumnae office or to me so that we can be in contact with you.

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## 55th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Judith Witkin Sandegren** writes: "My first and only grandchild, Rohan Louis Hurdlyer, was born on November 23, 2013. I am besotted with his adorableness. I never knew the powerful feelings a grandchild could evoke and I am thrilled to join so many classmates in this pleasure."

From **Susan Rubin Suleiman**, "I've been one of the silent ones, even though I have more happy than sad news to communicate. The big news at the moment is that I am teaching my last classes at Harvard this term, after 33 years on the faculty. I'm not done with work yet, as I have to finish a book on the novelist Irene Nemirovsky, her daughters, and problems of Jewish identity in France before and after the Holocaust. (I know, that's a mouthful.) In the happiest news department is my grandmotherhood, which I am enjoying more than I ever thought possible. Spending time with these kids is an unmitigated joy, albeit an often exhausting one. I am delighted to be their chief provider of books and games (Parcheesi, anyone?), as well as hike leader and general grandma."

**Frances Burton** writes, "Old age is a time for rethinking a life. What did I do that should not have been done? What was never attempted? Given the horror in the year I was born and thereafter, for many years I have tried to keep away from things past. But my granddaughter at 10 is a history buff, especially of that period. So I write for her—family reminiscences, adding photos, some of people I never met. This is a morsel of legacy."

**Beverlee Armstrong Everett** writes of her pleasure in celebrating her mother's 100th birthday shortly after her own 75th. Her mother died peacefully a month later, and Beverlee experienced a hint of mortality herself when she "began experiencing shortness of breath and ended up undergoing double bypass surgery." But, she adds, "Six months later I am doing very well, and feel I have been blessed with a new beginning. Along the way I have enjoyed hearing from classmates and look forward to our 55th reunion."

**Rebecca Levin Lubetkin** writes: "I am retired as professor emerita in the School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, where I spent the bulk of my career. Among my current activities is serving on the national board of the Veteran Feminists



Photograph by Candace d'Carlo

"When I needed to make a new will my attorney posed a new question—**how to handle my book royalties? My thoughts turned to Barnard.** Perfect! Without Barnard would I have had the skills—or the confidence—to write those books? Quite possibly not. I am delighted that after I am gone I can continue to give back to the institution that gave me so much."

—**Ruth Schwartz Cowan '61**

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### Contact

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of America and serving as chair of the Feminist Legacy Project, whose mission is to collect and exhibit stories and illustrative artifacts that document feminist activity in the latter third of the 20th century. We are interested in the small personal collections preserved by activists and the back-stories that tell the tales of the second wave revolution that later generations find hard to believe. Thanks for reminding me to say something!"

**Roberta Cohen's** career is summarized in a wonderful profile in the student newspaper of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, "50 Years Pursuing Human Rights." It can be found online at: [saisobserver.org/2014/04/07/50-years-pursuing-human-rights/](http://saisobserver.org/2014/04/07/50-years-pursuing-human-rights/).

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## 1961

**Elinor Warshaw Davidson** is keeping busy and satisfied with volunteer work in Ann Arbor, Mich. She has been coordinating the Back Door Food Pantry, located on a site owned by Saint Clare of Assisi Episcopal Church and her synagogue, Beth Emeth. The local Muslim Social Services has joined as a cosponsor. She observes, "Our best feature is that we don't ask for proof of need; anyone who comes seeking food is welcome to receive something." She cites her husband, Ed, who took early retirement from the University of Michigan: "Retirement does not mean going to sleep; it does not mean doing nothing. It does mean doing whatever you feel like doing, rather than what someone tells you that you have to do."

**Coppélia Huber Kahn** is also anticipating a change of pace. She writes, "After teaching for nearly 50 years, the last 27 of them as professor of English at Brown University, I'm going to retire this May. It feels strange to write the words. I'll miss my fabulous Brown students (but not

those stacks of papers to grade). I have so many writing commitments, though, that I actually feel kind of stressed. I'm coediting a book on Shakespeare commemoration that will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2016—watch for it. Also, I'll be in northern Italy this summer, hiking in the Dolomites for 10 days."

While perusing back issues of *Architectural Digest* in her doctor's office, one of our observant classmates learned that **Jane Trapnell-Marino** is married to celebrity architect Peter Marino. Jane has enjoyed an impressive career of her own as a costume designer with a long list of credits including television (*Beverly Hills 90210* and *Kate and Allie*), film (*Heartland*), and opera (*Orfeo and Euridice*).

Please keep in touch. Your news is always welcome.

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## 1962

I was at a recent Seven Sisters reception at an art gallery in Naples, Fla., along with **Angela Carracino diDomenico** and husband Maury. **Suzanne Cherney** sent regrets, as did **Rosalie Klein Cohen**, who was attending a jewelry-bead show in Tucson. She started making jewelry as a hobby and she, with her clever husband, made so many things that, for lack of space, she started a small business on Etsy, listed as *Simplyclassicrosalie*. Even got a business license. Guess it's never too late!

There was money left over from the September mini-reunion in New York; some was used to send children's books to the alumnae office as baby gifts for both Erin Fredrick '01 and Carly Sorscher, who are our class contacts and good friends in that office.

**Lisa Volow Golombek**, curator emeritus of the Royal Ontario Museum, has just published her project—15 years in preparation—*Persian Pottery in the First Global Age: the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, her research on the ceramic industry of premodern Iran. It involved several field trips with her team. Most of the writing was done during her mandatory retirement (2005). Otherwise, she's been enjoying her seven grandchildren; she still writes and lectures, but now has a new passion—the piano.

**Ruth Wilson Witten** wrote that she celebrated spring on a Caribbean cruise with her two sisters. "If you have siblings I recommend spending time together while you can; our week on the beach last summer was so much fun we had to make it an annual event."

As many of you know, **Barbara Lovenheim** runs a popular website, *NYCitywoman.com*, for women 50+, that comes out once a month; some classmates—**Ruth Nemzoff** and **Janice Wiegman Lieberman**—have published articles in it, not to mention Barbara herself. They also ran an article about **Claudia Graff Bial's** remarkable daughter, Deborah Bial, a MacArthur Fellow, and interviewed members of the New York City Barnard book club. They're open to new writers and new ideas, so get in touch. And of course she hopes you'll sign up for a (free) subscription! On the personal front, she's enjoying her four grandchildren, ages 2 to 11, immensely; what a gift for someone who never married!

**Leah Salmansohn Dunaief** writes that life is exciting and satisfying as she figures out how to survive in business with her seven weekly newspapers. She's been a widow for over 25 years and can attest to the pleasures and personal growth that exist after marriage. She is the mother of three perennially interesting sons and three engaging daughters-in-law, and she has four grandchildren, the oldest starting college this fall. Her cultural life is rich, and she'd like to give an unsolicited plug for classmate **Barbara Kallman Weinberg** and a glorious lecture she gave at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the spring. Leah's fondness for Barnard and all it has given her has only grown over the years; she would welcome any visitors who might find themselves in the vicinity of Stony Brook.

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## 1963

**Twyla Tharp**, Barnard's Distinguished Guest Artist for 2014–15, presented an exciting lecture with a live dance demonstration to a proud, packed Barnard audience April 26. In "Revealing Process," our renowned choreographer classmate



showed us how she created *Treefrog in Stonehenge* especially for students, using 52 movement patterns from their technique classes to shape the choreography. *Treefrog's* New York premiere at Miller Theater April 25 and 26 was performed by Barnard and Columbia students. This provided an exciting focus for a '63 mini-reunion immediately after her talk. Fifteen classmates attended along with a standing-room-only crowd. It was a very special event both for the College and the '63ers present: **Loretta Tremblay Azzarone, Terry Rogers Barth, Marian Mandel Bauer, Caroline Fleisher Birenbaum, Joanna Silverberg Chaleff, Elizabeth Smith Ewing, Sheila Gordon, Sigrid von Hoyningen-Huene MacRae, Carol Miles, Dolores Mirto, Wendy Supovitz Reilly, Francine (Frankie) Stein, Linda Sweet, Bette Steinberg Tiago,** and **Pearl Sternschuss Vogel.**

**Susan Rosen Koslow**, professor emerita of art history at Brooklyn College and CUNY Graduate Center, vigorously continues to investigate intriguing art history problems. She follows in the footsteps of her mentor and friend, the late Julius Held, art history professor and Dutch-masters expert. Currently Susan is investigating a 6'x11' canvas by Flemish Golden Age artist Frans Snyder (1579–1657)—*The Lonsdale Produce Stall*. This vast canvas, which shows an astounding array of fruits and vegetables, poses questions of feminism, social significance, and political power. What is the significance of the women staffers in the picture? Was this picture commissioned by the Antwerp gardeners to embellish its guild hall? Why did subsequent great political figures of the era collect these large works, and what did such works connote for them? Case not yet closed. To find her balance in life, Susan practices the visual arts in all media, exploring historical subjects, and using them as a means to engage in dialogue with visual art and literature, dance, and even music. She also comments that during her lengthy teaching career, "I taught close to 30,000 students, but among those thousands, my Barnard students were exceptional. My teaching experience at my alma mater was truly the most satisfying."

**Susan Marshall Perlstein**, who founded the National Center for Creative Aging in 2001, was a keynote speaker at the National Leadership Conference in

## Artistry of Cultural Exchange

### Felice Fischer '64

"It was happy serendipity," says Felice Fischer of taking a Japanese language course at Columbia during her senior year at Barnard. "That's one of the great things about a liberal arts college. You can take all sorts of wonderful courses. Who knows which one is going to become the love of your life—if you're lucky. I was very lucky."

The road that began at Barnard led to an extraordinary honor last February when the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold, and Silver Rays, one of Japan's most prestigious honors in the world of culture, was conferred upon Fischer. Ambassador Sumio Kusaka, consul general of Japan in New York, presented her with the certificate and medal at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where Fischer has worked for 42 years and is now the Luther W. Brady Curator of Japanese Art and Senior Curator of East Asian Art. Fischer was recognized for her contributions to cultural exchange in the field of art and for deepening the appreciation of Japanese culture in the United States.

After falling in love with Japanese language and culture, Fischer pursued graduate studies at Columbia, earning her doctorate in 1972. She thought she'd go into teaching, but first accepted a summer internship at the museum. "When I got to the museum, I realized how closely the art and the literature were related," says Fischer. "Much of the art was about the literature or based on, or inspired by, the literature. I'm actually very happy that my basic education was in the literature and language because they're so essential to understanding the art."

She learned the hands-on part of museum work, such as how to handle artwork and how to plan the gallery space for exhibitions, on the job; her first major exhibition was in 1987. Becoming a full curator in 1992, Fischer appreciates that her career, which has included curating more than 30 exhibitions, has evolved over time and never hit a plateau. "Although your energy level is not quite what it was 30 years ago, 20 years ago, or even 10 years ago, it's the art itself that gives you the energy," says Fischer, who is working on a major exhibition to open in 2015, "Academy of Japanese Painting," which will feature works of those who served as the official painters to shoguns and military rulers. "The idea of introducing another aspect of Japanese art to our museum-going public and future generations—it's self-motivating." — *Lois Elfman*



Photograph courtesy Philadelphia Museum of Art

Washington, D.C., in June, bringing together policy, research, and practice in creative aging. Susan believes that "by giving voice to our elders and youth through the arts, the dynamic of a community can be changed, building a more equitable society for all." In 1979, Susan founded Elders Share the Arts, a community-based arts organization linking cultures and generations through the arts. ESTA is celebrating its 35th anniversary.

Carol Miles and I eagerly await your news. Our class web page ([www.alum.barnard.edu/1963](http://www.alum.barnard.edu/1963)) has the complete

news submitted for this column—always generously exceeding our word limit. Send suggestions, get-together ideas, and updated e-mail addresses to [barnard.class63@gmail.com](mailto:barnard.class63@gmail.com). Contact Pearl Sternschuss Vogel ([psvogel@optonline.net](mailto:psvogel@optonline.net)) and **Constance Foshay Row** ([constancerow@comcast.net](mailto:constancerow@comcast.net)), class council cochair, for regional gatherings of classmates. —*ESE*

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## 1964

Our 50th reunion has now taken place, and it was a great one. We tied with the fifth reunion Class of 2009 for highest attendance, with 124 alumnae (not including guests), and raised \$324,027, which was over our goal of \$300,000 and which earned us another plaque in Reunion Courtyard. Participation was 54 percent with 194 donors and the hope that 10 percent more will donate by June 30 to bring us to 64 percent. Congratulations on these achievements and all the great events to Reunion chair **Shoshanna Sofaer**, members of her committee, and our outgoing class officers.

Class officers were elected for 2014–2019: president, **Georgianna (Georgi) Pimentel Contiguglia**; vice president/Reunion chair, **Carol Berkin**; correspondent, **Hannah (Hallie) Rosenberg Metzger**; fund chairs, **Pauline Piskin Sherman** and **Tamra Cohen Stoller**. Also, a brilliant class book was produced by **Karen Black Burgin** with pages we had sent in about our lives.

Events featuring members of our class were the Thursday-night cocktail party at the home of Pauline Sherman; an alumnae expert discussion on food, health, and wellness that included **Elizabeth Berliner Henderson**; the AABC awards ceremony with an Award for Service to Barnard going to Georgi Contiguglia; a speech at our class dinner by **Judith Malkin Frangos** about turning points in her life; discussion circles on many interesting topics at our class luncheon that were facilitated by classmates; and **Sonya Weil Michel's** performance at "Mentors, Muses, and Monsters," a live storytelling performance by alumnae. We also had a memorial service to honor those who have passed away this year and since our last reunion. I've left out all the other meals, talks, and tours, but they were memorable, and I'm looking forward to our next reunion already.

News about classmates: **Helen**

**Bernstein Berman**, Rutgers University Board of Governors Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at the Center for Integrative Proteomics Research, has been selected to receive the Benjamin Franklin Award for Open Access in the Life Sciences from Bioinformatics.org, also known as the Bioinformatics Organization, Inc. The organization presents this humanitarian and bioethics award to an individual who has promoted free and open access to the materials and methods used in the life sciences.

**Mallory Edie Crawford** passed away in March. Her main career was as a trained psychotherapist and counselor who worked in a crisis center and helped battered women. She also recycled avidly and founded the nonprofit Earth Mother Enterprises to educate people about natural parenting. Mallory was active in the Barnard Club of Pittsburgh.

This will be my last column as correspondent. Hannah (Hallie) Rosenberg Metzger will be taking over. It's been a privilege to talk to you about your lives. Thank you for allowing me to include your information. —*Andrea Machlin Rosenthal*

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## 1965

### 50th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Nancy Martz Merberg** has written us for the first time since graduation. Married during sophomore year, she and her husband, Elliot, have already celebrated their 50th anniversary (with a trip to Southeast Asia). They live in Manhattan and Quogue. They have three married children and nine grandchildren. Nancy taught English and then directed a gifted and talented program in the Herricks school district on Long Island, and now mentors student teachers for Teachers College.

**Bettye Grossman Barcan** writes that she has retired as head of technical services at the Springfield Free Public Library in New Jersey. She and her husband, Steve (CC '63), have three married children—two in Boston (with Bettye's four grandchildren), and one in Brooklyn. They also have a house on Cape Cod.

**Susan Parker Fellman** writes from West Hartford, Conn., that she is enjoying retirement with her husband, Stanley (CC '54). They love grandparenting their 3-year-old grandson, Elias, and spending time with their daughters, Elizabeth and Claire.

**Audrey Evans Lee** has moved to the Greens at Greenwich, in Greenwich, Conn. Long retired, she has "done a great deal of painting, singing, traveling, reading, and savoring fine food."

**Ching-Wen Pu Taylor** and her husband, Carl, "have finally made the big move," and are now splitting their time between Woodstock, Vt., and a continuous-care community in Hanover, N.H., Kendal at Hanover. They have three children.

**Karen Rothstein Brody** has relocated to Raleigh, N.C. Her daughter, Debra, was married in 2013.

**Brigid Shanahan Barton** is a professor emerita of art history from Santa Clara University in the San Francisco Bay area. She teaches outreach classes at several schools and museums. She is married to Rob Robinson, a professor emeritus from Stanford, and has two sons—both professors—and six granddaughters.

**Carol Falvo Heffernan** is still living in Garden City, N.Y., and teaching in the English department of Rutgers University (Newark campus). Her son, Geoffrey, and his wife, Sophie, have two sons, Rory and Tommy.

**Anne Fragasso** recently joined the advisory board of the Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego School of Law. She is semiretired but still practicing law as appellate counsel in abuse and neglect cases out of Los Angeles. She also "dabbles in jewelry making."

**Monika Schwabe Eisenbud** lives in Berkeley, Calif., where she is engaged in her psychiatric practice. Her husband, David, is director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley. Their son, Daniel, works at Google, and their daughter, Alina, is the mother of their grandson, Shannon.

And **Judith Bernstein Stein** writes that she was prompted by the memory of Malcolm X's speech at Barnard, just before his assassination in 1965, to write an article on Barbara Chase-Riboud's *Malcolm X* sculptures at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. It appeared in *Art in America* and can be found on her Web site.

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## 1966

**Iris Polk Berke** reports that drought or no drought, she is "still happily living in one of the most beautiful parts of the United States," Northern California, which she has called home since 1970. (She currently lives in Los Gatos.) Iris has a great deal more to be thankful for. She fought off a rare gastrointestinal tumor that "has remained at bay for two years." Iris writes that since retiring as a high school principal in 2004, she has been training educational administrators and coordinating a regional volunteer program that pairs experienced mentors with less-seasoned school administrators. She calls the work "very gratifying." With Iris on the West Coast, her 90-year-old mother lives independently in New Jersey. Her two "California-born-and-raised daughters and their families" also live in the east, in New York City and Westchester. As Iris says, "go figure."

**Janet Sullivan** still enjoys work as a psychoanalyst and music therapist in private practice. Though retired from full-time work, she says she is more involved in singing and playing piano than she has been in decades. She also continues her practice of yoga, begun at college "when Sri Swami Satchidananda gave one of his first classes in America at Columbia's Earl Hall." Sadly, Janet writes, her "beloved husband and companion" died not long ago, leading to some "major rethinking and prioritizing. I am so glad to live in New York, where I have friends from many periods of my life, including, of course, Barnard."

Kudos to **Anna Lee Spiro** for successfully defending her PhD dissertation in art history at Columbia last December—only 38 years after beginning it. What came in between? "It's called life," Anna says. Initially, historical references to Anna's subject, the 12th-century northern Italian sculptor Nicolaus, were often written in arcane, academic foreign prose. So, Anna writes, "I ended up teaching, from Head Start to eighth grade, and college-level art history as an adjunct." Retirement

and improved source material helped her complete her dissertation, and as of this writing, Anna was to receive her doctorate in May. "I feel finally emerged or evolved—not sure which," writes Anna—aka Dr. Spiro.

With the end of a long marriage a couple of years ago, **Doris Skulsky Stanley** says she is "now free to be me." That means, in part, indulging her love of languages, especially French, her major at Barnard. These days, the much-traveled Dorrie (she counts Strasbourg, Stockholm, and Breukelen in the Netherlands among former homes) lives in Orlando, Fla., where she writes poetry and a blog, and attends French, Italian, and German conversation groups. Dorrie has two children, both academics. Her son teaches artificial intelligence at the University of Central Florida, while her daughter teaches the philosophy of political science at the University of Memphis. "No one seems to have inherited my linguistic bent," Dorrie writes. The only other apparent cloud on her horizon: She has "tried in vain to find [her] Prince Charming," but, says the onetime French major, "il se cache."

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## 1967

**Margaret Pinney** writes, "Sometimes we choose retirement and sometimes retirement is thrust upon us. I was happily teaching on the Caribbean island of Nevis, when the private school I was working at closed for financial reasons. I have been trying to get my head around being retired and filling all this free time. For those of us whose identity has been attached to work, it is a huge adjustment to end that phase of our lives and begin the next—whatever that may be. I'm neither totally integrated into the community here in Nevis, nor comfortably at home in the community I leave for most of the year. Neil Diamond's "I Am, I Said" comes to mind. I'm sure I am not alone in struggling with this transition."

**Selma Samelsberger Campbell**,

most recently of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., passed away in January. Before her retirement, she taught political science at Fairleigh Dickinson University, worked as a public policy analyst in New York, and worked as an analyst, auditor, and manager in computer operations for several companies in Chicago, Dallas, and Fort Lauderdale.

**Joemy Wilson** retired after 12 years of tour directing all over the world and then wrote *Coming Up on Your Left: A Tour Guide's Guidebook*. She is still working as development director and grant writer for the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, and does occasional teaching at her former travel school in San Francisco. She and her husband, Jon, traveled to Cuba and Turkey last year and are returning to India this year. She is active in the Barnard Club of L.A. and a local Barnard book club, and just began as a docent at Doctors House, a Queen Anne–Eastlake villa owned by the Glendale Historical Society.

**Catherine Feola Weisbrod** has finally decided to add some sanity to her life by leaving her "day job" doing human resources and workplace consulting, but is continuing with her part-time private practice. "It is a move in the direction of reclaiming my personal life. I want to travel while I am physically able." Last summer, she trekked to Alaska, and this winter to southeast Australia. "Alaska truly felt like another country, not another state, and it is really the last frontier." Daughter Erika is back living and working in D.C., after four-plus years working in Prague. Cathy's husband, Lucien, continues to do part-time travel consulting.

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## 1968

**Charlotte Fishman** is a San Francisco plaintiff-side employment-discrimination attorney who handles glass-ceiling cases, and speaks and writes on such topics as the influence on women's careers of gender stereotyping, cognitive bias, and work-family conflict. She is cofounder of the blog for the California Employment Lawyers Association, *CELA Voice*, which promotes fairness and equity in the workplace. She

is also an executive board member of the National Employment Lawyers Association. Charlotte lives in Berkeley with her husband, Alan Sparer (CC '69), and her daughters, Anna and Julia.

**Elissa Forman Cullman**, profiled in the winter issue of the magazine, writes, "The most exciting news is that Edgar, my husband of 45 years, and I are the proud grandparents of two girls, both under 2: Savi, born to my son, Sam, and his wife, Purva Panday Cullman '98; and Hazel, born to my daughter, Georgina, who has a PhD from Columbia in environmental studies, and her husband, Chris."

Now working as a consultant to community Jewish day schools across North America, **Frances (Cooki) Rosenfeld Levy** served as head of a school in Montreal for 23 years, retired in 2012, and moved with her husband to Toronto, where two of their three sons live with their families. Cooki greatly enjoys the much slower pace and time to enjoy her nine grandchildren, ages 6 months to 14 years. Her husband, a professor at McGill University, commutes to Montreal.

**Anne Grant** was an activist with NOW when she won a national Emmy for writing an ABC bicentennial docudrama on women's history, and the next year won a New York Emmy for her work on a program training teachers to implement Title IX, a federal law prohibiting sex discrimination in education programs and activities. Then, "I changed course, went to seminary, and got ordained." In ministry, Anne discovered how many good mothers were losing custody of their children to abusive fathers at family court. Eager to return to screenwriting after retiring from her last church, Anne completed a script about Mildred Muhammad, ex-wife of the Beltway Sniper whose rampage was intended as a cover in order to murder her and seize custody of their children. Anne is looking for an agent for this and other story ideas.

**Patricia Harrigan Nadosy** never expected to be as busy after two careers as she is now. Continuing her long relationship as a trustee emerita and member of the Athena Leadership Council, Pat is also on the board of the Nature Conservancy, and a "tri-president" of the Southampton Garden Club. But, Pat notes, "My two major commitments are to our growing family—three daughters, two sons-in-law, and three grandchildren—and to Carl Schurz Park," where she serves on several committees

and the board of the conservancy. Noting that the park has been transformed into a real oasis in the last decade, Pat writes "What's in Bloom" for the conservancy's Web site, and she and a colleague created a tree map listing the park's 135 types of trees and the location of 635 individual trees. Version two is on the way. Her husband, Peter, is working harder than ever at a firm he founded with a friend about six years ago and serves on 12 nonprofit boards.

**Abby Sommer Kurnit** and Jeff loved their Danube River cruise last November and look forward to booking another trip, timing and destination unknown. They are enthralled with their granddaughter's daily development.

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## 1969

As class correspondent, I wanted to reconnect with everyone who could attend our 45th reunion earlier this summer. And while my teaching schedule made it impossible, the more I read about Reunion, the more I regret my absence. Approximately 80 members of the Class of 1969 were there, says Reunion committee chair and incoming class president **Linda Krakower Greene**. She sums up the committee's efforts: "Thank you to the incomparable **Daphne Fodor Philipson** who suggested the sing-along idea, worked tirelessly to raise money for the Barnard Fund and then gave out awards to the outgoing class officers." New officers for the term 2014–19 were announced: president, Linda Greene; vice president and Reunion chair, **Judith Gould-Cavalier**; fund chair, **Carolyn Chaliff**; and your intrepid class correspondent.

Linda says, "It was thrilling to see so many faces from the past, to meet some new friends with whom I had been corresponding on Facebook and through e-mail and networking calls. Almost everything was a highlight, but what especially stands out are two experiences: I was overwhelmed to meet again with **Joan Henry Ruderman**, my roommate from first semester of freshman year, who

returned for the first time after so long. Also, the Friday class dinner when everyone started singing along with **Christine Quinn-Thibodeau**, and then dozens of classmates stood up and started dancing, was magical. I was also thrilled to find my old friend from 2 Reid, **Jill Eikenberry**, and her husband, Michael Tucker (both of LA Law fame), at the Saturday-night gala. **Laurie Anderson** won the Woman of Achievement Award at the dinner, and **Linda Yellen** did us proud at the Moth storytelling on Saturday afternoon. **Nancy Biberman** was honored on Friday for her activism and community service. How would I sum it up? I loved it—loved my classmates, loved that smart, funny wisdom from Anna Quindlen '74, loved the singing and dancing and connections at our class dinner, loved getting to know and becoming reacquainted with the classmates on my In Memoriam boards. The older I get, the more I treasure my connections with the Barnard women of our class. I hope all of us who were there for 45 will be there for 50 too, and that we are joined by many more." Finally, she adds, "A special thanks to Carolyn Chaliff, **Ellen Shulman Lapson**, and **Susan Spelman**, who did so much to make our digital yearbook a reality. You can find the link to it in our Class of 1969 page on the Barnard alumnae Web site, or you can e-mail Barnard1969yearbook@gmail.com for the link. It's also on our class page on Facebook: Barnard College Class of 1969."

In other news, **Joanna Gough Roy** shares news of a recent move from Manhattan to Brooklyn. She writes that she wanted "to be closer to my daughter, Sarah, and her family. My son, Noah, and his wife, Ann, are expecting a little girl, so I will be blessed with grandchild number four—lucky me! They are moving from the D.C. area to Memphis."

Another classmate with Brooklyn ties, **Laura (Lolly) Benefield Gibson**, a Boston-based landscape architect, notes that "family life is fulfilling. Our daughter Eve lives in Chicago with her husband, Todd Pytel, and their 6-year-old twins, Elaine and James. Eve is a planner and works for the Delta Institute, an organization that describes itself as 'blazing the way to the green economy.' And our daughter Lucy Gibson '03 lives in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and makes beautiful ads for television."

Yet another Brooklynite, **Seana Anderson**, was busy before Reunion. Her mother died, at age 92, in April and as an



"ordained and licensed interfaith minister, I conducted her service up in Boston," Seana says. "My daughter, Tamia, produced the third annual Brooklyn Dance Festival in April and May with professional, emerging, and youth companies. And my wife, Kit, and I are planning a trip to London and Paris to visit the British Library, Bibliothèque Nationale de Paris, and other libraries."

**Martha Gaber Abrahamsen** sends best wishes for "a very happy 45th" from Copenhagen. Her career as a translator is as busy as always, and she was happy to get back on the water when spring arrived. "We rowers always hope for the best: sunny, or at least not pouring, and not too windy. To keep my mind active, I've rejoined the Danish Foreign Policy Society, which offers high-level lectures and panel discussions on everything from Crimea to the future of the European Union. It's never too late to learn."

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## 1970

### 45th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

The Class of 1970 is transitioning from longtime careers into new creative endeavors. **Bonnie Fox Sirower's** term, "redirecting," describes the process well.

**Rachel Val Cohen** has a shop on Etsy selling creative switch-plate covers and other unique goods. Both of her talented sons are self-supporting artists. Jonno is a photographer, and Jay, "who married the excellent Janet in February, is a musician, teacher, and arranger." Rachel Val's husband is the multi-instrumentalist improviser and composer Jay Rattman. The two enjoy hiking in Pennsylvania, where they live, and occasionally in Montana. They sometimes "hop" into New York City to visit.

**Rebecca Cook** formally retired from the faculty of law at the University of Toronto, but continues with limited teaching and research. After three years "in gestation," her coedited book, *Abortion Law in Transnational Perspective: Cases and Controversies*, was published in 2014 by the University of Pennsylvania Press. With the book done, Rebecca looks forward to more time hiking and gardening.

**Virginia (Ginna) Dean Miller** proudly

reports that at the time of the Class Notes deadline, her husband, Knute, was walking the Camino Portugués, a 400-mile trek from Lisbon to Santiago de Compostella, Spain. Ginna planned to fly to southern Spain to tour Granada, Seville, and other cities, as well as Napoleonic battlefields, before joining him in Santiago. She describes a newfound love of history and being "amazed to find that [her] pleasure in reading Bernard Cornwell's Sharpe series has translated into this journey."

**Joan Pantsios** continues to enjoy retirement, particularly with volunteer work and traveling. She recently joined the board of the Newberry Consort, which specializes in historically informed performance of music from the 13th to the 18th centuries. In December 2013, she spent a week in Havana, Cuba, on a tour sponsored by the Jazz Institute of Chicago, visiting dancers, artists, and musicians. She has also adopted a couple of rescue kittens, rambunctious year-old Siamese-tabby mix brothers.

In March 2014, as a past district governor for Rotary district 7490 in northern New Jersey, Bonnie Sirower had the pleasure of inducting her old lab partner in "rat psych," **June Perkins Bertini**, as a new member of the Park Ridge Rotary Club. June was also elected in November as a council member of Park Ridge. Bonnie writes that she is now "redirecting," not retiring, as she focuses her efforts on things other than fund-raising. She has been teaching water fitness and yoga/tai chi/qi gong in the water, and plans to take other classes so that she can do rehab activities in the water as well. As this writing, she was scheduled for an April 30 comedy debut at Paterson Rotary's Beefsteak Comedy night.

**Carole Greenberg Wilson** recently returned from Myanmar for the first shoot of her documentary *Myanmar Year Zero*, working in conjunction with her husband and partner, Michael Henry Wilson. Subsequent shoots in that country will follow the transition of Myanmar from a military dictatorship to a more democratic system of government.

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## 1971

**Patria Baradi Pacis** writes from Montauk: "After the horrendous tragedy of 9/11/01, Delta Airlines offered an early retirement package I couldn't refuse. Free to pursue other dreams at 52, I acted, modeled, painted, and sang; studied ballroom dancing, golf, gardening, photography, and journal writing; and watched all those missed prime-time shows on reruns. My mother, my husband, and I traveled near and far. In 2006, I submitted an article and pictures to a newspaper, and since then contribute to *The Montauk Sun*. In February 2012 my mom passed away short of 102. When Hurricane Sandy came, my sister's house in Long Beach and her daughter's house in East Rockaway were severely damaged and we took both families in. This past spring we were away for a month attending happy events: A birthday in Oxnard, Calif., my niece's wedding in Honolulu, a week in Kauai for vacation, and my brother's 50th wedding anniversary in Nice, France. This June, my husband, Cam, and I will celebrate our 45th wedding anniversary. I participated in the Barnard oral interview for the archives, attended our 40th reunion, and look forward to November's Women of the '60s dinner reunion."

**Kathie Krumm** is enjoying retirement at her Jamaican beach house, supporting endangered hawksbill turtles and sea-grass beds. Next stops: Serengeti migration with her son; and poverty strategy work in Nigeria and Malawi.

Rabbi **Cheryl Weiner** became a board-certified chaplain through the National Association of Jewish Chaplains and was elected to its board, and was also elected as vice president for the Rabbinic Association of Greater Miami. She is working to end local human trafficking, as well as to pass the International Violence Against Women Act in Congress. Her heart is heavy with the fact that her sister is dying. Our thoughts are with her.

Congrats to **Julia Hong Sabella**, who finished the New York City half marathon on March 16, running in support of Apex for Youth in lower Manhattan.

**Esther Amini Krawitz's** autobiographical piece, *Oscar de la Renta and Mom*, was staged by the Jewish Womens' Theatre in Los Angeles as part of its show, *Unknown Stories of Biblical Proportions*.

**Mary Lane's** son, Spencer, will be working for Google as a software engineer following his graduation from Brown in May.

Congrats to **Ina May Wool** on her newly revamped Web site, [inamaywool.com](http://inamaywool.com).

**Vikki Stark** hosted her fourth divorce-recovery retreat in May, welcoming women to Montreal from all over the U.S., Canada, and Europe. It was an amazing weekend, filled with tears and laughter (a must if there's healing to be done). Previous retreats were held in Sedona. Vikki is working on a new book, *How To Tell the Kids*, about informing children of parents' plans for divorce.

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**Linda Sherman** has been named the new president of the American Association of Immunologists, a professional organization with almost 8,000 members, which publishes *The Journal of Immunology*. She is a professor in the immunology and microbial science department at the Scripps Research Institute, where she has been doing research for 35 years on transplantation, cancer immunotherapy, and autoimmunity. A physics major at Barnard, Sherman earned her PhD in biology at MIT.

## 1972

**Carol Yahr** writes with this news: "I have not written an update before, but this seems like the right time. I married John Tucker (CC '72) right after graduation. We worked together in a pop/rock group and later, I became an elementary school teacher and he did a PhD in English at Columbia. After giving birth to a daughter in 1979, I followed my childhood dream and became an opera singer. If it sounds crazy and unlikely, it was both. John and I divorced in 1985. I had a successful career singing long operas (mostly Wagner in German) here in the U.S. (Metropolitan Opera, Kennedy Center, Seattle Opera) but more often in Europe (London, Paris, Berlin, Oslo, Hamburg, and many other places). I'm now a voice teacher and still live near

Barnard. My daughter is a writer/producer, married, living in Venice, Calif., and just gave birth to my first grandchild, Isabel Felice Pacheco. The middle name is for my mother, Felice Turtz Yahr '45."

After I sent a request for Class Notes asking for reflections on a moment of "thoughtful appreciation," **Virginia Bales** wrote, "My moment of thoughtful appreciation: my husband, Jay, has recovered wonderfully well from his stroke last summer. This experience of illness has highlighted how precious we are to each other—and we keep learning how to help each other. We are very lucky. I'm also constantly thankful for the friends I made both at Barnard and after Barnard, who have made such a difference in my life."

**Nancy Newill-Doniger** sends news of the joy of watching her granddaughter grow. Although her son Colin, 33, and his wife don't live nearby, they keep in touch through Skype between visits. "Shaina Skye delights us with each new stage of development as she explores her world and forms her personality. She has added a whole new dimension to our family, which includes my husband, Paul, our other children, Nick, 29, and Alexandra, 25, and my parents." Nancy is the editor of *The Easton Courier*, and Paul teaches high school English and theatre. They're enjoying their time together as empty nesters.

**Shulamit Magnus** has been promoted to full professor at Oberlin College, where she has taught Jewish history since 1998. She is the author of four books, one of which won the National Jewish Book Award. Much of her work has focused on Pauline Wengeroff, a 19th-century Russian Jewish woman who wrote extraordinary memoirs about the Jewish passage from traditionalism to modernity through the lens of women's religious and cultural experience, and the family as the site of cultural change. She spent last year in Israel, in part as Lady Davis Fellow at Hebrew University, where she taught a new course on theory and practice of feminist Judaism.

**Rose Yu-Chin** is still working as a psychiatrist in Connecticut, doing clinical work with geriatric patients in nursing facilities, and also has a part-time private practice. Rose has been taking ballroom dance lessons for two years and competes. She writes, "In our last regional championship, I came in second in the 'Smooth' category (waltz, Viennese

waltz, tango, and foxtrot) and second in the 'Rhythm' category (rhumba, cha cha, swing). My best scores were in paso doble and samba. I am having the time of my life. I plan to dance competitions into my 90s. Ballroom dance is not only great for the body, but also for the mind and spirit."

**Deborah Pearl** writes: "This year has brought good news for my work. My play *Incomplete Strangers* was a semifinalist in the 2014 Eugene O' Neill Play Competition, and my musical, *At the Bistro Garden*, written with composer David Kole, will be produced outside of Detroit at Two Muses Theatre in the fall to open its 2014–15 season. It takes place in the '80s and is a funny inside look at the ladies who lunch. Big shoulder pads, big hair—same challenges of love and friendship. Thanks to all of the alumnae who supported my CD *Souvenir of You—New Lyrics to Benny Carter Classics*."

**Evelyn Ehrlich** writes this report, "Four Hewitt—We Renew It," about a mini-reunion. "When we arrived at Barnard in the fall of 1968, we were naive teenagers, wary and not entirely sure we had made the right decision. The previous spring, Columbia had erupted in building takeovers and police beatings of demonstrators. The cohabitation of a Barnard and a Columbia student had scandalized the newspapers. New York was gritty and crime ridden. But we quickly found a home on 4 Hewitt. The bonds we knitted have endured for 46 years. In March, six of us (me, **Goldie Lieberman Alfasi-Siffert**, Ginny Bales, **Susan Clare**, **Susan Detz**, and **Diane Levine Gardener**) reunited in New Haven to recapture that family feeling. For one night, we were not 60+ mothers and grandmothers, lawyers and psychologists, cancer survivors or professionals contemplating retirement. We were 18 again, brand-new and full of questions about the world, love, and the meaning of life. The answer is us—being there for each other through crises and triumphs. Thank you, Barnard."

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## 1973

**Janice Peters** writes: "Having completed my 20th and final year in 2012 at the National Cathedral School, a girls' school in Washington, D.C. (community service,



admissions, and ethics teacher at various points), and spending close to 40 years in education, I returned to the arts. Classmates may remember my love of art, especially painting, and I appreciated those Barnard sisters who brought back a photo of me in the studio from the Barnard archives that reminded me of what I should be doing, my true heart and passion. By 2013, I had exhibited paintings, macramé wall hangings, and gold-tint linoleum block prints in at least five shows in Virginia. Retired? Not yet. The creative juices are flowing and it feels great. I recognize how much it is a shame to postpone things that bring joy."

**Martieneke Faber-Spruytenburg** writes: "I decided to retire from teaching since my husband's project in Lesotho, southern Africa, ended. So we retired to sunny Murcia, Spain, with our 15-year-old Ridgeback and 6-year-old Cocker Spaniel. Now the irony is that my husband has been asked for a half-year project in Azerbaijan and I am stuck with the dogs and can't move again. So back to teaching?"

**Sarah Tamor** writes: "I've lived in Los Angeles for many years and am married to architect Alex Ward. I have had an eclectic career and am currently district representative for California state senator Fran Pavley, known nationally as the author of California's landmark environmental law, the Global Warming Solutions Act. My daughter Hannah graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute and is supervisor of the SFAI media equipment inventory. My daughter Rachel is a state department official working on environmental issues, and is married with a daughter, Eva, who is my delight and joy (as are Hannah and Rachel). I'm a lucky person."

**April Lane Benson** writes: "I continue to try to forward the study and treatment of compulsive buying disorder, but it's (pardon the pun) a hard sell since consumption fuels our economy. The tide may be turning, which I'd like to see before I retire. I vacillate between thinking of retiring and thinking about writing another book. Talk about ambivalence. My husband retired four years ago from his job as general counsel for Automatic Data Processing Corp. He is finishing an advanced certificate in teaching English as a second language at NYU and who knows where that'll take him. Our older son, Eric, is a freelance writer in Austin, Texas. Our younger son, Corey, works for Joule Assets, a start-up alternative energy company based in Bedford Hills, N.Y. I'm

a member of the founding council of the amazing Athena Center for Leadership Studies at Barnard, and I'm happy to say it brings me back to campus often. I've a lot to be grateful for." —JR

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## 1974

**Priscilla Konecky Tepper** is an endodontist and associate clinical professor of endodontics at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine. Her daughter, Julia Tepper, is a psychology major at Barnard. Her son, Jaron Tepper, recently completed his first year of medical school at Sackler School of Medicine in Tel Aviv.

**Batya Hyman** writes from Maryland, "I have been married to Belinda Cross since March 2010, when same-sex marriage became legal in Washington, D.C. We met in Phoenix in 1998." Their son, Grant, is an associate producer on the television show *Shipping News*. Belinda supervises a data analysis unit that uncovers Medicare and Medicaid fraud. In 1993, Batya received her PhD in social policy from Brandeis University. She is currently a professor of social work at Salisbury University, where she has served in an administrative role for the past three years. This summer she will assume greater administrative responsibilities when she steps into the role of graduate program director.

**Janet Stroup Fox** lives in Bozeman, Mont., where she has authored four books for children and young adults. In 2010, Janet received her MFA in writing for children and young adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. Her most recent book, *Sirens*, is a mystery and romance set in 1925 New York.

In addition to practicing psychiatry in Manhattan, **Michelle Friedman** teaches pastoral counseling at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah rabbinical school. She and her husband of 30 years, Ben Belfer, live on the Upper West Side. Their eldest daughter, Emily, graduated from Cardozo Law School and intends to practice trusts and estates law; their second daughter, Sarah Belfer '12, is a Barnard graduate and is working for Teach for America. Sarah married

Elliot Eisenberg, a medical student at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, last December. Their youngest daughter, Rachel, will be a senior at Barnard in the fall.

**Beth Rosenthal** earned a master's in social work from Columbia in 1976; she concentrates on community building and organizational development. Her consulting firm, Collaboration and Change, guides nonprofits, government agencies, and foundations in building effective collaborations to help shape policy. Beth was married to the late Dr. David Berger, a pediatrician. She lives in Manhattan and Schoharie County, N.Y., with her teenage daughter.

**Kristina Appel Goldstein** writes that she lives in White Plains, N.Y., and San Antonio, Texas, with her husband, Jacob. Their 28-year-old daughter, Talia, lives in New Haven, Conn., with her husband, Jeremy. Since graduation, Kristina has worked in banking, earned an MBA, volunteered at her daughter's school and their synagogue, directed French-English bilingual social organizations, and tutored students in French. For the past six years, she has worked at the Rye Country Day School in Rye, N.Y. She enjoys gardening and traveling with her family to France.

**Marilyn Hett** lives on an 80-acre preserve on the Gulf of Mexico in Florida with her husband, Rick Gill, who retired from Bank of America. Marilyn manages over \$40 million in county funds earmarked for tourism and economic development in Hillsborough County in the Tampa Bay area. She recently gave a presentation, "From Minarets to Midcentury Modern," at the annual conference of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. She credits architect professor and preservationist James Marston Fitch and history professor Kenneth Jackson with igniting her interest in architecture and history. She and her husband migrate north every summer to spend time in Darien, Conn.

**Cynthia Wagner Ginsberg** worked as a social worker in a hospital after earning a master's in social work from Columbia. She currently has a private psychotherapy practice where she concentrates on helping patients cope with the impact of illness on family, friends, and marriages. Cynthia writes, "I have a 30-year-old daughter who is an extremely independent and creative elementary school teacher. Her husband just received a doctorate in clinical psychology."

**Gail Check** writes: "How is it possible that it has taken me 40 years to attend my first reunion? It's not like I've been wandering, as did my Biblical ancestors, in the desert all that time. In fact, I've mainly been just down the I-95 corridor, living on a quiet country road in beautiful Bucks County, Pa. Over the years, I have pursued and enjoyed various careers and community activities, and have nurtured a cherished family with my husband of 35 years and counting, Ron, and our two awesome sons, Matthew and Jonathan."

Kudos to **Catherine Blank Mermelstein** for her 40-year stint as class correspondent!

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## 1975

### 40th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

As I begin the college application process with my daughter, Florence, a high school junior, it's become clear that I need time and energy to focus on this, as well as on work and the other multiple details of life. So I am taking a break as your class correspondent and hope a valiant member of the Class of 1975 will step into the breach. It's been great fun hearing from our varied and accomplished group of Barnard women. I will definitely contribute news to our new correspondent.

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## 1976

**Elizabeth Neiditz Benedict** reports that she is writing her sixth novel, and putting finishing touches on her third anthology of personal essays. Her second, *What My Mother Gave Me: 31 Women on the Gifts that Mattered Most*, was chosen as the book that Barnard first-year students would read in 2013–14. It includes essays by Barnard grads Mary Gordon '71 and Susan Levitt Stamberg '59.

**Claudia Ford** reports, "I'm getting my doctorate in environmental studies with a focus on women's historical ethnobotany. My graduation was the 17th of May. You're never too old to go back to school!"

**Susan Sommer Klapkin** writes, "I am expanding my business as a personal stylist, by selling the new spring collection from Rondina New York, which specializes in women's knitwear. I launched my sales of this line at the home of **Nancy Matis Dreyfuss** and had a wonderful time styling and shopping with Nancy, **Diane Price Baker**, **Martha Bakos Dietz**, and **Antonia Vellios Kouretsos**."

**Miriam Ortiz-Lopez** sums up her life since graduation: "Career-wise, going back even before graduating from Teachers College, I have worked in education for about 30 years, especially in language programs. Now I have my eye on retirement in order to work as a consultant or developer. I and my husband of 29 years have been living in New Jersey, but I still feel like a New Yorker. Our son is 28. My stepson made us happy grandparents to twins. Since my cousin **Martha Torres** and I graduated in 1976, her daughter, son, and my niece, Iris, have also graduated from Barnard/Columbia. We are still in touch with **Mildred Ramos**, but would like to hear from others in our class."

**Susan Weiman** reports, "I organize and promote a small but popular reading series for established and emerging writers called Third Friday, Queens Writers Series in Astoria. We feature Queens writers and poets."

Ellen Fishman Borrow  
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## 1977

My oldest son, Paz, 28, recently returned from the Peace Corps in the South Pacific island of Vanuatu. We enjoyed briefly having all three sons at home, before Seth, 26, moved to Australia. Our youngest, Gideon, will graduate from high school this June. My poetry and prose have appeared in print and online in *philly.com*, *Apiary*, *Blast Furnace*, *Cahoodaloodaling*, *Literary Mama*, *Musehouse Journal*, *Sprout*, *The First Day*, and *Wild River Review*; in collections such as *In Gilded Frame* and *Three Minus One*; and in several Cup of Comfort and Chicken Soup for the Soul books. I enjoy receiving

news from classmates, and following you on our class Facebook page. Here are some updates.

**Liz Neumark** sends this: "On the home front my son, Sam, is a freshman at Wesleyan; my daughter Katie is halfway through volunteer service in the Israeli army (on leave from Wellesley), and my eldest daughter, Nell, graduated from Bates in 2012 and is job hunting. I am busy promoting my cookbook, *Sylvia's Table*, and busy as ever at work. My life as a farmer is also rewarding as we head into our eighth growing season. Finally, I have learned to have patience; things take time. It is really wonderful to watch all the seeds I have planted—at home, work, and on the farm—grow."

And from **Lorinda Begam Camparo**, "I'm pleased to report that my colleague Karen J. Saywitz and I recently published a book with Oxford University Press, *Evidence-based Child Forensic Interviewing: The Developmental Narrative Elaboration Interview*. My husband, James Camparo (CC '77), who holds a PhD in chemical physics, and I are excited to be celebrating our 35th wedding anniversary this summer. We plan to mark the occasion with a trip to Europe."

**Joan Feldstein deSalvatore** has exciting news: "My son, Ian Sullivan (CC '04), was married on April 26. As you may know, his father is my ex-husband, Ed Sullivan (CC '72). We are really excited."

**Suzanne Monaco Urso** e-mailed, "Life is moving along in Pittsburgh. My husband, Lou, is enjoying retirement. I continue to work as an enrolled agent with the IRS preparing income taxes for H&R Block. This is my 27th year and I truly enjoy seeing each of my clients year after year. We became grandparents for the first time, to Michelle Marie, on December 15. She's the daughter of our eldest son, Matthew, and his wife, Lisa. They live in Baltimore. Our younger son, Michael, lives in Nashville. We don't get to see any of them as often as we would like."

**Sara Merwin** reports that she is living on Long Island, working at North Shore Long Island Jewish Hospital coordinating clinical research for the orthopedic surgery department. She has also been publishing and teaching, traveling the world with her husband, Ross, and enjoying her sons—Matthew, 30, Julian, 26 and Gregory, 22. She remains close with Barnard sisters **Diana Furmanski Kaplan** and Lynn Silverstein Najman '72, and has connected



with other Barnard alumnae, which is "always a reminder of the high-quality, bright, well-informed sisterhood we belong to."

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## 1978

*Jami Bernard*  
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## 1979

For our 35th reunion, we had people coming from far and wide. **Ilise Levy Charoy**, who came in from Switzerland along with her new husband, Dominique, was the "far"; **Monica Nicolau Groziak**, straight from Silicon Valley, may need to duke out the "wide" designation with this year's Distinguished Alumna Award winner **Beth Seidenberg**, who came in from L.A. Monica wrote in after Reunion: "I am a mathematician doing research at Stanford University School of Medicine. My research deals with discovering mathematical methods to analyze 'big data' generated by biologists, mostly dealing with cancer biology and immunology." Monica is also a proud Barnard mom; her daughter, Amanda Groziak '15, will be starting her senior year this fall. This was Monica's first Reunion—so glad she could come! Other alumnae with Barnard daughters include **Karen Fried**, who reports that she is the proud parent of two Barnard graduates, Sarah Sullivan '11 and Rachel Sullivan '13. Karen loved being back on campus while her daughters were at Barnard, and was grateful that her daughters were able to experience all that Barnard had to offer.

**Irene Fish Gottesman** (who was also at the Friday lunch) reports that her daughter, Elaine Gottesman '14, graduated this May as a history major and was an Athena Scholar. Irene says it is wonderful to see the growth in her daughter while at Barnard. **Diana Thompson** was one of the educators honored at the Alumnae of Color dinner on the Thursday evening of Reunion. The video should be available shortly. There was also an event Thursday night at V&T Pizzeria; it was great to see **Sharon Feit Bari, Martha (Sissy) Cargill Biggers, Jenifer Grant, Lisa Kalus Hendler** (escorted by Keith Orenstein, CC

'79), **Nanette (Nina) Hennessey-Ruff** (our new class copresident), **Tamara Igel, Cynthia Ladopoulos, Terry Newman** (our new AABC president!), **Susan Adler Neumark**, and **Joan Storey. Syma Suriff Baran**, who showed up after I left, reports that she "continues to be a mammographer at a private practice on Long Island. I am passionate about my career and thankful I have been able to help many wonderful women. In June, my husband, Maury (GS/JTS '79), and I will celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary. We began dating during freshman year. Maury is a Nassau County police detective. We have been blessed with three children and four grandchildren, who live nearby and whom we see very often. Avi, a New York City police sergeant, is married to Sara, and has a 1-year-old son, Yossi. Tamar, a mental health counselor, is married to Sany, and has three children. And David is a student in college and yeshiva."

More of our classmates sighted at the Friday lunch included **Nieca Goldberg** (our new class president along with Nina) and **Victoria London**. Any omissions are unintentional, and you should send in a class note to rectify them. And although I was not at the dinner, I understand that my new cocorrespondent, Diana Thompson, and ex-class president/new vice president, **Amy Cogan Ramson**, attended.

From those who could not make it, we hear that **Arlene Donaldson** is executive director at Novartis in drug safety and epidemiology. She has three children—two are out of college and working, and one is waiting to hear where he will go to college next year.

**Katherine Morrison's** freestanding birth center has finally opened. She writes, "The Birthing Center of Buffalo is only the second freestanding birth center in New York State and the only one in the U.S. that is part of an abortion facility. We are all about choice and woman-centered birth. We've had some beautiful, natural births here already and hope to change the horrible hospital statistics in Buffalo (Cesarean section rate of 38 percent, doubled maternal mortality since 1998) and in the rest of the country."

**Ruth Zodkevitch Scher** lives in New Jersey with her husband, Richard Scher, a hematologist-oncologist, and "our three amazing children. Alyssa is 20 and just completed her sophomore year at Emory College. Rachel and Evan are 19,

having completed their freshman year at Emory and The College of New Jersey, respectively."

**Rukhl Schaechter-Ejdelman's** Yiddish cooking show (with English subtitles) keeps attracting new viewers. She writes that her gefilte fish episode got over 10,000 hits! Her oldest son is getting married at the assisted-living facility where Rukhl's 98-year-old grandmother lives, so she can participate.

Finally, our hearts go out to the family of **Altagracia Diloné Levat**, a longtime resident of Rye and director of a cultural outreach program in the Bronx, who died on April 16 in hospice. Our condolences also go out to **Amy Ramson** on the loss of her father-in-law, and Terry Newman on the loss of her father.

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## 1980

### 35th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

If you're on Facebook, you can find **Lois Elfman**, and she is as entertaining virtually as she is in real life. You can also find me, and you should. Meanwhile, here is Lois with news regarding two classmates in one paragraph.

"I was so glad that 2013 didn't come to a close without a New York City visit from **Lisa Menke Stuart**. She wasn't able to make her annual Easter trip due to her involvement with a charity event in Florida, where she lives, but she made a quick trip to the Big Apple to see her mother before Christmas. Her timing was great, as the day we met was my birthday and she readily backed up the fantasy number I'd created for my age. I had to be late because first thing in the morning I covered the opening session of the Intercollegiate Athletics Forum at the Marriott Marquis, an event at which each year I learn more and more about the power of college football. I continue to be a busy freelance writer and editor covering a myriad of topics. Among the publications for which I write is *Barnard Magazine*, so as soon as people are done reading Class Notes, I hope they'll check out my articles. My writing brings me to the Barnard campus at least once

# Targeting Breast Cancer

Linda Vahdat '82

Linda Vahdat has had a laudable career spanning more than 25 years focusing on the treatment and prevention of metastatic breast cancer. Tapped in 2002 to lead Weill Cornell Medical College's brand-new breast-cancer research program, she now serves as professor of medicine, director of the breast-cancer research program, and chief of the solid tumor service. She is board certified in both internal medicine and medical oncology, and serves as a reviewer for *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and *Clinical Cancer Research*, among others.

When asked about her successes, Vahdat flashes back to a moment before her college graduation, when she was advised not to go to medical school; she was told a faculty member believed she'd be "only moderately successful."

"I always wanted to do cancer research because I felt that there were so many unanswered questions," she says. "So I took that advice and moved past it. I've always felt that if you feel really passionate about something, you need to move forward."

Vahdat went to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center for her training and ended up in breast-cancer research largely due to timing—her 1990 fellowship coincided with what she calls a "golden age for breast-cancer research."

"We were finally starting to get some treatments that actually worked well. You know, maybe you can't call it exactly golden... but it was definitely yellowish, at least," she laughs.

Today, since son Andreas, 21, and daughter Camilla, 18, are nearing adulthood, and former investment-banker husband Torodd Kummen (BUS '83) was able to help with homework for her finance course, Vahdat has just finished an MBA at MIT. She's been able to bone up on analytical skills that have already helped her better communicate with clinical oncologists and pharmacologists, and helped her research become more data driven.

"And remember," she says, "When I went to college, we didn't even have computers. You can't let these things scare you. You have to just dive right in."

—Kim MacQueen



who wrote, "Our beautiful classmate succumbed to cancer after a herculean fight. We are all heartbroken to lose such an incredible friend. She was an inspiration."

**Wendy White** wrote, "Serena was the quintessential Barnard woman. She was our greatest teacher to live life to the fullest, to follow our dreams, to show up every day with a smile, and to always be there for our friends and family. She also attended all our Barnard reunions and mini-reunions. May Serena fly high with angels' wings and know that she was so very loved by all of us. We send our sincerest sympathies to her family."

Our classmates have full lives both here and abroad. In Israel, **Susan Levenson Wolf** founded a high-tech company and raised six kids. After "marrying off two kids about a month apart last year," she launched a wedding- and event-planning business.

**Lisa Friedman** just marked her 17-year anniversary of living in Amsterdam. She provides this fun list of her accomplishments: given birth to a son, who is nearly 17 years old now; been with the same Dutch man; bought a wall clock for 500 guilders at an auction, thinking it was 50 guilders; felt inexplicably at home in Europe; lived on a canal; started a school, the Amsterdam Writing Workshops; corralled our classmate **Ann Koshel van Buren** into teaching poetry for said school; and learned that tulips continue to grow after you cut them.

**Caroline Geisler** has raised five thriving children, and recently moved from years of volunteer work to development, college guidance, and administrative leadership work. In her new role, she enjoys introducing high school students to what Barnard can offer. She recently reconnected with Mairi Jaanus, Barnard professor of English and comparative literature, her favorite teacher ever. Caroline found her "as vibrant and amazing as she was in 1980. Her excitement about literature and thought is infectious."

**Nancy Speez Liebson** enjoys family and work in beautiful Bergen County, N.J. She specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation and is raising a 20-year-old daughter and two sons—Daniel, 18, a freshman at Rutgers, and Ben, 15, a freshman in high school.

**Laura Helfman** balances work in the children's emergency department at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn., with her second career as a professional

a semester, and meeting the students always leaves me grateful we went to school when we did and I didn't have to vie for a spot with these phenomenal young women. Other interesting topics I covered this year included growing LGBT acceptance in college sports, accelerated nursing programs, wedding-dress trends, public-art installations in New York City, luxury shopping in Mexico City, Mikimoto pearls, and the usual round of celebrities and sports. Lisa continues to have great adventures traveling, racing with the White Rhino sailing team, and doing the most amazing photography. I hope to see more of

our classmates in the year ahead."

Would it tempt you if I mentioned you can see lots of Lisa's photos on Facebook too?

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## 1981

Tributes to **Serena Castelli**, who passed away on April 6, were sent by several classmates, including **Jessica Braus**,



whitewater river guide in North Carolina and Tennessee. She and her husband recently hiked in Sedona, Ariz., and visited Victoria Maizes '82 in nearby Tuscon.

Congratulations go out to **Sally Cross** for her new position as director of planned giving at the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

**Mira Rubens** describes herself as "lucky enough to be a science-cluster teacher at P.S. 230 in Brooklyn" and has been awarded an Astor International Travel Fellowship to study STEM education in China. While there, she will meet up with her husband, Peter Landy, who also has a business trip there—he repairs bassoons.

I am balancing family life on the Upper West Side with private practice as a clinical psychologist-psychoanalyst. I have met several classmates through psychology and through being a mom whom I didn't know when we were in college. I hope to hear from you all soon. For me, this birthday seems momentous; there's no avoiding middle age now! I'd like to know how others are managing this life passage. Send in your thoughts for the next Class Notes.

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## 1982

Hello, everyone. Mail in from **Shari Greenwald Mendes**, who shares that "David Mendes (CC '80) and I are enjoying having college-aged children. After surviving breast cancer in 2010, I started a charity that assists needy Israeli breast-cancer patients who are in financial crisis due to their illness. I saw how costly it was to be sick, and didn't understand how poor people managed. The Israel Breast Cancer Emergency Relief Fund, aka the Lemonade Fund ('when life gives you lemons, make lemonade'), gives one-time grants to Israeli patients in active treatment, regardless of race, nationality, age, or religion. We also help very ill local patients by providing home-cooked meals. Barnard alumnae near and far are welcome to be in touch."

Congratulations to **Josephine Miou Lee** as she writes that her daughter, Elizabeth, will be attending Barnard in the fall as a first-year student, and is looking forward to life in New York City as well.

**Laura Ammann Novak** writes that

her son, Max, is nearly finished with his freshman year in college. Max is attending the University of Southern California as a Mork Family Scholar. Laura is now 90 percent of the way through the sequel to her Berkeley-centric novel, *Finding Clarity*. She also helps run her husband's design business, which includes work on the Apple campus in Cupertino.

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## 1983

I am thrilled to receive news from a few first-time contributors and to catch up with frequent contributors.

**Eugenia Bone** reports that her new book, *The Kitchen Ecosystem: Integrating Recipes to Create Delicious Meals*, will be published in September by Clarkson Potter. She also started a blog with the same name, exploring the same themes of linking recipes, preserving, and using the waste streams of foods to make new recipes. She has recently expanded it to include the Greek "kitchen ecosystem," working with chef Neni Panourgia. She also works on her project Cent'Anni, for which she reports on the daily cooking of her 87-year-old father, chef Edward Giobbi.

**Barbara Louis Cirella** lives in Danbury, Conn., with her husband and two children. She works part time as a marketing consultant, doing some work for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and for a start-up called Zolio. Barbara writes that when she is not playing taxi for the kids and their after-school activities, she loves to paint with watercolors. Barbara cannot wait for the summer after the terribly long winter, as they live on Candlewood Lake and enjoy wakeboarding, swimming, and jet skiing.

**Kimberly Dente Ferguson** is thrilled that her daughter, Kaitlin, was accepted to Barnard early decision and will be starting this fall. Barnard was the only school her daughter wanted to attend. Kimberly notes that she is a general dentist working for a community health center in Westchester County.

**Sharon Dizenhuz Seltzer**, our class president, writes that in the bar mitzvah department, the news is "two down and one to go." She thinks that the third one will be in Israel, which would be a big and

meaningful adventure, as it would be a first visit to the country for the entire family.

**Tina Lao** recently visited Machu Picchu, where her tour group hired a guide to walk and climb the ruins. While exhausting, she says the climb was definitely worth it, and the Peruvian food delicious. When not traveling, Tina spends time playing tennis and volunteering at tournaments. Most recently, she volunteered at the Sony Open Tennis tournament in Key Biscayne. She also plans tennis vacations with her tennis group. Tina, who lives in South Florida, works in estate-tax planning, and has been in the insurance industry since graduating from college.

**Julia Rothchild**, who is married to psychiatrist J. Carl Jean-Francois, continues to serve as codirector of the Center for Family Life, a settlement house in South Brooklyn. She says it is a great place for volunteers and interns wanting to learn about and make a contribution to an excellent youth-development and child-welfare organization. Julia also writes that she is now the very proud grandmother of Emilia Rose Rex-Kiss, her very beautiful and darling year-old granddaughter, whom she hopes is a future Barnard student!

**Rania Teymour** recently moved back to New York City from Cairo to accept the position of head of protocol and public relations at the League of Arab States. She is excited about her new position and is enjoying being in Manhattan.

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## 1984

**Derlys Gutierrez** and **Irene Friedland** were pleased to be able to catch up with so many of you at our 30th reunion in June. For Irene, the highlight of the weekend was learning about the odysseys that many of us have taken to get where we are today and how we are continuing to reinvent ourselves.

**Mayra Alvarez** is now an assistant professor in the department of pediatrics at Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University.

**Angela Babin**, longtime industrial hygienist specializing in the health and safety issues encountered by visual, performing, and educational artists, is now

also a social worker. Angela teaches karate and meditation at Ronald McDonald House and plays electric guitar and bass with the Gotham Roots Orchestra.

**Adele Breen-Franklin** reports that as of July, she is an assistant professor in the department of occupational therapy at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia. Her son Nate graduated from high school this year, and her son Aaron starts 11th grade in the fall. Adele enjoyed catching up with everyone at the reunion and asks, "Where did the time go?"

**Margarita (Ari) Brose** was honored to receive the Service to Barnard Award from the AABC at Reunion, and was pleased to have it handed to her by actress and Barnard student Ariane Rinehart '15, a member of Bacchantae, the singing group Ari helped found 32 years ago. It was great to have her mom at the award ceremony, and as a result of a missed travel connection, also at our class dinner. Listening to us sharing memories during dinner, Ari's mom was overwhelmed with the power of the sisterhood and now, Ari says, "she knows why Barnard is so important to me."

**Roberta (Bobby) Caploe** writes that she was "really overwhelmed and moved by all the memories and good feelings that were shared at our class dinner. The stories were funny and poignant and demonstrated a real connection to the College, even all these years later." She was personally pleased to meet so many lively, terrific women whom she never knew while at Barnard but now can call friends. "This was the best college reunion I've been to, by far."

Irene Friedland was happy to finally meet web designer **Kimberly Conner** in person, after meeting on Facebook through a mutual friend.

Derlys Gutierrez was very glad to catch up with **Avis Hinkson**, our beloved dean of the College.

Hawaii-based **Beth Irikura**, an English major at Barnard who was always interested in biology, followed up her BA with a master's and PhD in biology, and is now an agricultural inspector for the federal government.

**Christina Krumrine**, who has worked at many of the world's leading museums, is now a conservator in private practice. Her clients include private collectors, galleries, and museums in New York and around the country.

**Leila Lau** and **Sondra (Kim) Lee-**

**Brown** were excited to connect at Kim's first Reunion. Kim and her husband, Barry, and her mother-in-law were welcomed into the Barnard community for the weekend and even stayed in the dorm.

**Georgia Pestana** is now chief of the labor and employment law division at the New York City law department.

While in New York for our reunion, children's book author **Linda Ravin Lodding** gave a presentation at the Children's Media Association.

**Aroza Sanjana** was born in India and raised all over the world, finally settling with her family in New York City at the age of 12. After studying psychology and economics at Barnard, Aroza started her career at AT&T, moved to MCI, and earned an MBA from Fordham University. Aroza and her husband, Jose, have two teenage sons, Lorenzo and Armando. Because Armando is autistic, Aroza decided in 2003 that owning her own business would give her the time and flexibility to provide him the care he deserved. She began working in real estate sales and soon formed Atlantic Realty Partners. In 2011 she and her husband bought Warren Lewis Realty, which is now a part of REBNY. Aroza is known as an advocate for autism and education, and credits her developmental-psychology studies with helping her diagnose her son as autistic before the doctors did.

Irene reports that it was also great to catch up with **Naomi Barell, Soula Economou, Jessica Elfenbein, Muna Khan, Lorraine Newman Mackler, Kris Piiramae, and Lynn Kestin Sessler.**

We encourage you to find each other on Facebook and LinkedIn between updates.

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## 1985

### 30th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

Hi, Class of '85. Wishing you a warm and happy summer! Now for our latest news and updates:

**Jane St. John** writes for the first time to let us know that she lives in Bloomington, Ind., with her husband of 23 years, Bob

Wolford, and their son, Benjamin. Benjamin is a sophomore in high school and will be studying men's fashion design for three weeks at Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), which he hopes to attend in a couple of years as an undergraduate. Jane is thrilled that someone in her family is staying connected to New York. Their daughter, Sara, is a sophomore and a construction management major at Ball State University. Jane is a vice president for international partnerships at Solution Tree, an educational publishing, events, and consulting company where she has worked for 10 years. Jane is looking forward to next year's reunion; she had a fantastic time in 2005 reconnecting with many of us.

**Silvia Coxe Waltner** was just admitted to the master's program in art history at the University of Washington. After leaving Barnard as a political science major she went to work for Christie's, where she became a specialist in Latin American art—a big twist in the path of life, as she never studied art at school. Silvia and her family have been living in Seattle since 2002, after spending five years in Tokyo. Her husband, Nick, who runs a small hedge fund, is originally from Seattle. After leaving Japan they decided to bring up their kids in the Pacific Northwest. Now that their three kids are older—Maggie is 12, Alexander is 14, and Olivia is 16—it is the perfect time for Silvia to go back to school and finally study art. She can't wait!

**Nina Brennan Neshar** writes that for the past six or seven years she's been teaching beginner- and intermediate-level Hebrew at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS). This year, she's also been teaching an introductory Hebrew class as part of JTS's Context program at Park Avenue Synagogue and Sutton Place Synagogue, as well as teaching Hebrew at the Ft. Tryon Jewish Center in Washington Heights. In 2013, Nina was accepted into the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

**Maris Fink Liss** lives with her husband, Kevin (CC '84), in Silver Spring, Md. She heads up federal and administrative appeals for a boutique immigration law firm located in Michigan, where she used to reside. Maris is thankful for the Internet and the miracle of telecommuting. Her eldest son, Jeremy, graduated from Columbia last May and now attends Yale Law School. Her middle son, Daniel, is a sophomore at Columbia, and her youngest son, Aaron, celebrated his bar mitzvah this year.



**Bettina Gilois** sends us news that she has finalized a manuscript on the life of the artist Thomas Kinkade; the book will be available in September. She is also the cowriter on the forthcoming movie *McFarland*.

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## 1986

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## 1987

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## 1990

### 25th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Jane Schuchinski Schwartzberg** is a coauthor of the recently published book *Naked Jane Bares All*, a poignant and, at times, humorous look at her life as she faces stage-four breast cancer.

There is much excitement in **Uzma Safraz Kahn's** life. She moved back to the U.S. three years ago, after spending 10 years in Dubai. She has reestablished her

company in Dubai and is now spending time between Dubai, Pakistan, and Washington, D.C. Uzma sees a lot of opportunity for businesses and investments in Dubai, and would be thrilled to share her experience with alumnae who are interested in learning more. If any classmates are interested in an exploratory trip to Dubai with Uzma, please contact her.

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## 1991

Congratulations to **Margaret Cuonzo** on publishing her first book, *Paradox* (MIT Press Essential Knowledge Series 2014). She has been teaching philosophy at Long Island University's Brooklyn campus for over 20 years and is currently the acting chair of the philosophy department, as well as the coordinator of humanities.

**Elona Kogan** lives in Corona Del Mar with her husband and two sons. She enjoys California but misses New York. Her job as chief legal counsel at a publicly traded pharmaceutical company keeps her busy and off the beaches most days, but she has learned to do stand-up paddle-boarding, and surfing is next on the list.

**Andrea Salwen Kopel** shares that she started a new job as executive director of the New York chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women.

**Amanda Lotas** lives in the Outer Banks of North Carolina and would be happy to host any Barnard alumnae who would like to visit the pretty beaches there. Her son, Henry, is 10, and her husband's name is Lee. She got certified to teach yoga last year and now enjoys teaching hot yoga classes to locals and visitors.

Congratulations to **Natalie Langston-Davis**, who gave birth to a son, Marley Mathurin, on July 30, 2013. She is a pediatrician in Brooklyn. On April 13, 2014, Marley had his baby blessing at church. In attendance were **Joyce Theobalds Abernethy**, godmother **Samantha Lecca**, and **Linda Martin**. They have all remained best friends through the years and are godmothers to each other's children.

**Orlee Pinchot Turitz** is so excited that her daughter, Yael, will be attending Barnard! Yael fell in love with the school when she attended the summer Pre-

College Program, and she has already met some amazing young women who will be her classmates. Orlee loves her work as a leadership coach working with senior executives and running leadership-development programs for nonprofit organizations. She lives in Silver Spring, Md. Next year, two of her four children will be out of the house. It is amazing for her to transition now to being a Barnard parent, not just an alumna.

Unfortunately, I must end the column by informing our class with deep sadness of the passing of **Deborah Brown Baron**. The funeral took place on March 7 in Paramus, N.J. Our condolences to her husband, family, and friends.

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## 1992

It's been a slow news quarter, with only a handful of folks writing in. Thanks to those who did share their updates. As far as the rest of you, write in! We'd love to stay connected.

**Mary Beer-Cleasby** is a first-time contributor to this column. She's been living in London since 1992. In March 2012 she married Patrick Cleasby, an Englishman, in New York. The ceremony was officiated by her beloved friend and Barnard roommate, Rabbi **Joanna Samuels**, who performed the ceremony in the SoHo loft of Michael Feldschuh (CC '91). Several other Columbia classmates attended, and the Barnard agency catered. Mary is mother to twins Edie and Woody.

**Kathleen Madden** is editing the book for Performa 13, a performance-art biennial that includes hundreds of artists, dozens of New York City locations, several curators, and many audience members. The book, which is a historical account and index of the events, should be available in late 2014 or early 2015. Meanwhile, she has finished renovations and is now happily ensconced in central Harlem with a great view from her desk, although she has a garden to tend and worries it might be an excessive distraction.

**Laurie Mintzer Edberg** recently accepted a position as special assistant to Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.). Laurie will be a liaison to Senator Mikulski

for Montgomery and Howard counties in Maryland. In addition, Laurie has her own show on public access cable about the arts in Montgomery County. Also exciting is the planning for her son's bar mitzvah in November.

**Gwen Lopez-Cohen** lives in Westport, Conn., and has really enjoyed connecting with the Barnard Club of Connecticut. She and her husband, Brett (CC '93), just welcomed their fourth son, Joshua Emmanuel, born on December 6, 2013. In November 2013 they celebrated the bar mitzvah of their eldest son, Jacob, with **Rochelle Tarlowe Jonas, Melissa Leung, and Sandra Lee Park** in attendance. Gwen continues to practice child and adolescent psychiatry in Westport, Conn.

My cocorrespondent **Jenny Milchman**'s second novel, *Ruin Falls*, just came out from Random House to starred reviews. Jenny, her husband, Josh Frank (CC '92), and their children, Sophie, 10, and Caleb, 8, are back on the road for the world's longest book tour of four months and 20,000 miles. Jenny would love to connect with Barnard women along the road.

As for me, my job always takes me to interesting places, and I just returned from an awesome trip to the Scottish island of Islay, where I got an amazing tour of the Bruichladdich whisky distillery. The countryside is beautiful and the people are so friendly. And the whisky is great. If you're ever able to visit Islay, I'd highly recommend it. Hope to hear from you soon! —ESS

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## 1993

Hello from still-cold Minnesota. Hopefully by the time you read this, it will have finally warmed up here. I hope this set of Class Notes finds you all doing well and enjoying your lives. Though we had the deep freeze here this winter (as did much of the rest of the country), I'm still enjoying my Midwestern life. I'm completing my second year as director of Paideia Academy, my amazing daughter is completing kindergarten, and we're all looking forward to summer in the Twin Cities.

**Milagros Reyes-Luciano** lives in Bayside, N.Y., with the younger of her sons. She continues to work for the New York City Department of Education as a social worker, and as a therapist for the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. She has been to India and Japan, and will soon be heading to Gabon, Africa, on a mission trip to sing and bring hope and joy. Millie is the leader of Soul Care, a free short-term counseling program.

**Amy Talkington** recently released her new young adult novel, *Liv, Forever*, with Soho Teen. It has already been chosen as a best book of the month by Amazon.com and as a Junior Library Guild Selection. Not only is Amy doing well for herself, she has also provided work for several recent Barnard graduates who worked as research interns during her writing process.

**Rosalind Chapman** had twin girls, Veronica and Phoebe, in June 2012. She and her wife, Lisa, have been in Northampton, Mass., for a little over eight years after moving from San Francisco. (My apologies to Roz for not including these notes long ago.)

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## 1994

**Laura Clement, Lori Hoepner, Sonia Kim, Marlena Sonn, and Julie Choi Trepkau** kicked off our 20-year reunion meeting for drinks before attending a Blue Man Group performance. Laura arranged a private *demaquillant* (no makeup) meet-and-greet with the Blue Men themselves! Friday morning, our own class president, Lori Hoepner, served on the "Myth vs. Fact: An Alumnae Expert Discussion on Food, Health, and Wellness" panel, moderated by Melissa Clark '90 of *The New York Times*.

**Karla Hidalgo** had us laughing too hard to eat at our Friday-night dinner, recounting her adventures in television producing. I think she ought to be in front of the camera. Many of our classmates volunteered to answer the question, "What would your 40-year-old self tell your 18-year-old self?" Along with Karla, **Tracy Akner, Nashilla Alibhai, Lesley Bogad, Leela Roy Borenstein, Sophie Cardona, Wanda Cole-Frieman, Alison Forner, Kimberly Leopold Harrison, Lori Hoepner, Aisha Kabani, Michelle**

**Kuperminc, Anne Kurdock, Dana Lau, Emily Lee, Flora Lutsky, Magali Matarazzi, Bronwyn Miller-Udell, Nina Catubig Nolan, Mary Pflum Peterson, Michelle Ressler, Kerry Roberts, Alexandra Luchow Rosenberg, Erin Rossitto, Indira Smith, Sasha Soreff, Shelly (Sima) Toussi, Lisa Weiss, Emily Yang, and Fania Yangarber** attended the dinner. At my table sat a judge, the founder of a dance troupe, a professor, and a classmate who flew in from England especially for Reunion. Also attending Reunion were **Emily Chang, Elaine Chin, Anne Chew, and Shira Roffman Weinstein. Caryn Borger and Karen Wasserman** (who live four doors away from each other) and Lori Hoepner came to Sunday brunch. Class officers for 2014–2019 were announced. Lori Hoepner and Lisa Weiss will be copresidents. Fania Yangarber will continue as vice president. **Sarah Conrad Weisman** and I will be class correspondents; Kerry Roberts and Dana Lau will be cofund chairs.

A report from a far-off classmate, **Aelisa Kim Cipriani**: "Our family moved to Geneva three years ago for my husband's work. We have three girls ages 9, 10, and 12. Prior to that, I was in London for 12 years working in finance. In Geneva, I am focused on raising the kids and trying to learn a bit of French. It's been a wonderful contrast and experience to live in a small city surrounded by natural beauty. While we miss London and the city living, the change has been a welcome opportunity to enjoy a different quality of life."

An editor, writer and accidental oil wife, **Patricia Flaherty Pagan** is exploring the new territory of Texas. She recently founded Spider Road Press, an indie press that celebrates novellas, short stories, and flash fiction (while donating five percent of all proceeds to progressive charities). She encourages readers to peruse her first feminist title: *Up, Do: Flash Fiction by Women Writers*, and fiction writers to submit to the upcoming *Eve's Requiem: Five Tales of Women, Crime and Horror*.

Closer to home, **Robin Miller** says: "My husband, Jon, and I are currently living in Roswell, Ga., with my daughter, Ava, 7, and my stepchildren, Maddie, 11, and Andrew, 13. After completing my MEd in organizational development at the University of Georgia in 2003 and consulting in the fields of adult learning and change management, I made the



decision to stay at home and focus on our family. I have enjoyed being involved as a ballet, cheer, swim, and baseball mom, volunteering in the classroom, and chairing the annual PTA fund-raiser. It's also allowed me time to develop my new passion for painting."

**Humaira Serajuddin** has spent most of her career since Barnard working in the pharmaceutical industry, in roles across commercial and research and development. She lives in London working in the future strategy group of the office of the CEO at GlaxoSmithKline.

After working in film and television for a number of years, **Andrea Butterfield Robert** completed a doctorate in clinical psychology from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology last August. She is currently in a clinical fellowship with the Boston Institute for Psychotherapy. Her husband, Marc, is a psychologist on the South Shore of Massachusetts, where they live with their 2-year-old-daughter, Lila.

**Marcela Acuria Landres** is delighted to announce the third annual Comadres and Compadres Writers' Conference, of which she is a cofounder. It will take place in Brooklyn on September 27 and provide Latino writers with access to published authors as well as to agents and editors with a track record of publishing Latino writers. To register visit: <http://lascomadres.com/latinolit/>.

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## 1995

### 20th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Ilise Carter** has been writing for *The New York Times* and appearing as a corporate speaker for the Alternative Speakers Bureau.

**Elizabeth Egan** is an infectious-diseases physician at Boston Children's Hospital. She also researches malaria at the Harvard School of Public Health. She and her husband, Walter, are having fun raising their daughters, Adrienne, 4, and Fiona, 2.

**Kathryn Cassino-McHugh** is president of McGraw Hill Construction and part of the executive committee for McGraw Hill Financial. She introduced President Debora Spar at a women's leadership conference hosted by McGraw Hill in May.

**Natalia Leltchouk** finishes her

master's on Franz Kafka this spring. She has also been singing with the Bergen Philharmonic Choir for the past three years. She is scheduled to sing Elgar's *King Olaf* on the day she hands in her thesis.

After more than 15 years in the corporate world, **Rosesara Feinerman Greenspun** has launched Greenspun Consulting, focusing on marketing and project management. She is grateful for the flexibility that comes with having her own business, allowing her to work from home and spend more time with her three children.

**Gail Bradshaw Krieger** does pro bono legal work and lives in Westlake, Texas, with her husband, Jeff, and three children, ages 3, 4, and 5. She is already planning to attend Reunion and introduce her daughters to Barnard.

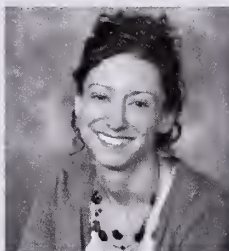
**Elizabeth Rachel Lemon** is a server-side quality-assurance automation engineer for Tremor Video, a leading provider of video advertising for Internet-connected devices.

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## 1996

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**Janine Utell** was named the 2013 Outstanding Researcher in Humanities by Widener University's College of Arts and Sciences, where

she is an associate professor and chair of the English department. Utell is a scholar of James Joyce and British literary modernism. Her 2010 book, *James Joyce and the Revolt of Love*, earned critical praise as a cutting-edge contribution to Joyce studies. Her book, *Engagements with Narrative*, is due out in 2015. At Barnard, Utell studied English, creative writing, and French. She holds a PhD from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, where her

field was British modernism and 20th-century studies.

## 1997

**Felise Nguyen** is the "founder and keeper" of Bamboo Cottages, a small eco-conscious hotel on the beach of Phu Quoc island, Vietnam. When not in Vietnam, she lives in DUMBO, Brooklyn, where she is exploring her newfound passions for mediation, conflict resolution, screenplay writing, and her fiancé, William Etundi Jr.

Another Brooklyn-based global citizen, **Ana Sofia Pelaez**, is eagerly awaiting the publication of her first cookbook, *The Cuban Table: A Celebration of Food, Flavors, and History*, by St. Martin's Press, due out in November. The research took her from New York to Miami and Cuba last year. Her recent work also includes a blog, *Hungry Sofia*, which was launched in 2008 in an effort to discover the rich smells, heady flavors, and baroque rituals of Latin food, and was nominated by *Saveur* magazine as one of the best regional cuisine blogs of 2012.

**Amanda Li Hope Friedman** has been living in England for the past 14 years. In 2009, after beginning a career in architecture, Amanda started her own jewelry business focusing on sustainable and fair-trade sourcing of materials. She works in London's creative hub of Clerkenwell.

Further updates from our New York base: **Sunita Koshy** lives in TriBeCa and made managing director at Citigroup in January 2014. She is also the regional head within the compliance division, leading a team of 11.

**Marisol Limon Martinez** maintains her visual art and music practice and is a part-time faculty member in the department of visual arts at the Trinity School. Her book of text and images will soon be published by Octopus Books. She recently moved to Jackson Heights with her partner, Ryan Haley, and happily discovered that her dear friend Wendy Tronrud '98 is a neighbor. Since then, Marisol has been a frequent guest lecturer in Wendy's class, On Creativity, at Queens College.

**Violita Hernandez Kovchegov** lives in Columbus, Ohio, and is married to Yuri Kovchegov, a professor, who earned his PhD from Columbia. They have three children: Claire, 12, Peter, 6, and Natalie,

2. Violita is a senior support analyst and assists in maintaining the ILLiad product for the Online Computer Library Center, Inc. Its goal is to help libraries locate, lend, acquire, and catalog material. Last August, Violita attended **Yuko Saito's** wedding to Prakash Vippa, at which time she had a chance to see classmates **Elena Chan** and **Jennifer Chen**.

And last, but certainly not least, my class cocorrespondent, **Joey Kaiser**, and her husband, Chris, welcomed a little girl in March. Thea Kaiser Monfet joins big sister Shane in their happy New York home.

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## 1998

Even with my last-minute call for updates, I did hear from a few folks with exciting news. Don't forget to read our private blog at [barnard1998.wordpress.com](http://barnard1998.wordpress.com) (e-mail me if you need an invitation) and check out the Barnard Class of 1998 Facebook page, where our busy classmates post interesting items quite regularly.

The first person I heard from was **Ilana Moche**, who is married with three children, living in Jerusalem, and practicing teleradiology.

**Ruth Wikler-Luker** is the curator and producer of Boom Arts in Portland, Ore. She collaborated with Alicia Jo Rabins on the development and West Coast premiere performances of Alicia's musical-theatre piece, *A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff*, in Portland this spring. You can learn more about the project at [boomarts.org](http://boomarts.org).

**Sharon Goldfarb Zimmerman's** son, Liam, was born last December, joining his two older sisters. Meanwhile, Sharon continues to grow her trusts and estates practice, which she opened in early 2013 after practicing at Debevoise & Plimpton for over five years. Sharon shares: "Owning my own business allows me to 'lean in' and 'lean back' in accordance with my own time frame to balance the demands of work and motherhood."

I heard from **Stephanie Shestakow** on April 26, the day after she got married to George Federici. In attendance at her Philadelphia wedding were fellow alumnae

**Jessica Ross Cole**, **Michele Mazeris**, Fahmida Rashid '99 and Adrienne Yee '99. Stephanie works at the Center for the Arts at Temple University advising film and theatre students.

**Amy Greenfield Green** is still living in Los Angeles with her husband and two children, Micah and Sophie. This year she celebrates the 10th anniversary of her business, a boutique event-planning and fund-raising consulting firm. Going to New York each year for her clients' events is a great excuse to see Barnard friends. When she's not at work or with her children, Amy can be found volunteering at her children's school and is proud to be cochairing the annual gala for the third year in a row.

In April, **Renee Mayo** and her husband, Jean Josue Pierre, welcomed the arrival of their first child, Mandela Matteo Pierre. Thanks to the delivery team, Mandela made his world debut to the tune of Pharrell Williams's "Happy." As in the song, the new parents couldn't be happier about the wonderful addition to their growing family.

**Thurka Sangaramoorthy** is pleased to announce the publication of her book, *Treating AIDS: Politics of Difference, Paradox of Prevention*, published by Rutgers University Press. In the book, Thurka "examines the everyday practices of HIV/AIDS prevention in the United States from the perspective of AIDS experts and Haitian immigrants in south Florida. Using in-depth ethnographic data, she underscores the difference between the global response to this public health crisis—where everyone is implicated as a potential carrier of risk—and the uncontested existence of racial and ethnic disparities in HIV/AIDS rates, access to treatment and care, and especially, the stigma borne by carriers of the disease."

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## 1999

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## 2000

### 15th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Jessica Pagan Urich** lives in Los Angeles with hubby John-Christian Urich and just

gave birth to little John Jasper "Jaz" Urich. She is missing New York—but not the weather—and is active in the Los Angeles Alumnae Association. She was recently chosen as one of the top 10 burlesque performers in Los Angeles...while she was pregnant! Find her on Facebook under Pagan Urich...or Scarlet O'Gasm!

**Diana Paquin Morel** wrote us that **Rachel Arenas Labossiere** and her husband, Eric, also had a baby, Vedder. Rachel and her family transferred from Minneapolis to Montana in May for their careers. The couple has worked for the same company in the life insurance industry for 11 years, which was how they met.

Sheera Hopkins '06 recently filled us in that her sister-in-law, **Miriam Kalnicki**, and her husband, Jason Carter, had a baby boy last October. His name is Simon Jack Carter.

**Julia Cheiffetz** and Thomas Walker (SEAS '01) welcomed their daughter, Madeline Ruth Walker, this past summer. Julia was proud to see a book she edited at HarperCollins, *Devil in the Grove* by Gilbert King, win the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction.

**Rania Elbaz** has been living on Long Island with her husband, Zachary, since having her son in 2008. She has two children—Amir, 5, and Noora, 3. She recently celebrated two years since starting her own pediatric dental practice in Merrick, N.Y., by relocating to a larger office.

**Melissa Erber Seiler** is a commercial real-estate attorney with Greenberg Traurig in Chicago, and was promoted to shareholder in 2013. Also, in September 2013, Melissa and her husband, Brad, along with big sister Anabel, 6, welcomed Lincoln Attilio to the family.

**Antoinette (Tonie) Walker** reported, "After a few years of tax litigation in D.C. (I graduated from the University of Pennsylvania's law school in 2003), I hightailed over to put my toes in the Pacific Ocean and spend some time with one of my besties from Barnard, Alicia McKie '99. Sanity brought me back east, where I started a family and made a career change. I am the proud mother of two boys, Isa Dean, born on October 17, 2008, and Adham Alim, born on May 5, 2010—my Cinco de Mayo baby. I now work in the office of institutional advancement at my high school alma mater, Friends' Central School."

**Carla Perissinotto** has been living in



San Francisco since completing medical school in 2006. She completed an internal medicine residency and geriatrics fellowship at UCSF. She is an assistant professor of medicine at UCSF and practices as a geriatrician and palliative medicine physician.

**Munira Khapra** is pleased to announce that, as a former art history major, she has joined the visionary public art organization Creative Time in its development department. In March of this year, Munira married Matthew Reiningger, a Miami native who has a master's from Teachers College.

**Pema Dizenko Gutman**, who lives in New York's Chinatown, would love to meet any Barnard women who might be interested in meeting for tea.

Thanks for all your hard work in getting your news and notes to me. Keep 'em coming, and write "CLASS NOTES" in the subject line!

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## 2001

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## 2002

**Soline McLain Holmes**, our class fund cochair, volunteered her time at the Barnard Phonathon earlier this year. During the Phonathon, she spoke to **Annette Minoso**, who is working at Amplify Education, an education-technology company that develops tools such as tablets designed for students. Annette has worked there for seven years and is a manager in the business approval department. Last November, she attended the wedding of **Elana Walker** in New Jersey. Annette also reports that classmate **Corine Marshall** was married and now works as a comedy writer, and classmate **Amanda Phillips** moved to Portland, Ore.

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## 2003

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## 2004

Our 10th reunion was a great success. Happy hour with our peers from CC and SEAS was a lot of fun after a long day of work. At the same time, **Emmanuelle St. Jean** was chairing the Alumnae of Color dinner. The dinner committee included **Marlysha Myrthil** and **Tonysha Taylor**. Other attendees included **Pascal Chrisphonte**, **Shauneida DePeiza-Saldenha**, **Natalie Dhanoolal-Rubio**, **Erika Flores**, **Simone Young Green**, **Ruth Kang Kim**, **Ann Lee**, **Eleonora Jimenez Levi**, **Dan Feng Mei**, **Aaisha Mirza**, **Helen Hang Pham**, **Rosa Sanchez**, **Maria Sardinias**, and **Kara Urquhart-Green**. Kara noted that she had a great time at this event and at the starlight dancing Friday night. Our class dinner highlighted what we have accomplished since graduation. We saw that our classmates are now living across the world and accomplishing many feats, especially in the areas of health care, law, policy, and the arts. Two of the most popular memories of Barnard were Midnight Breakfast and Doris's voice mail messages, reminding us that we are "strong and beautiful." **Shoshana Greenberg** notes, "It was wonderful catching up with everyone at the Friday night class dinner. I loved seeing **Catherine Aronoff**, **Carolyn Simnett Branco**, **Sheena Fallon**, **Phoebe Ford**, **Michelle LaRocco**, **Erin Ratz**, **Maria Sardinias**, and **Tina Vani**." Other great events included our lunch with the class of 1954, where we discussed our experiences at Barnard and beyond with fellow alumnae, noting many similarities between graduating in 2004 and 1954. **Sarah Bolger Lazzari** had a great time at the 1954/2004 luncheon with **Stacey Gottesman Klein**, **Tara Krieger**, **Debra Tillinger**, **Martha Schlatter**, and others. The Sunday brunch was fun as always. I was joined by **Aimee Boczek Davis**, **Elana Stiel Obstfeld**, **Beth Shuss Zell**, and their families. **Ashley Kelly Fisher** brought her new baby, Aurora, to get her first feel of Aurora's future alma mater! On behalf of the Reunion committee, we thank

everyone who attended Reunion events and make the weekend so great. Did you attend and want to share some memories? Let us know and we will include it in a future issue of the magazine. Congratulations to our new class officers: president, **Shoshana Greenberg**; vice president, **Sarah Lazzari**; and class correspondent, **Ritu Khanna**. Also, congratulations to **Emmanuelle St. Jean** on being elected to the Alumnae Association of Barnard College (AABC) nominating committee. Congratulations to **Haeri (Heddy) Nam** on her AABC Fellowship for Graduate Study.

Continue to follow the Barnard Class of 2004 Alumnae group on Facebook. I also encourage anyone who has not visited Barnard recently to go back for a visit. It looks spectacular and brings back a lot of great memories. Our new class correspondent is Ritu Khanna. You can send her all the latest news. —*Jessy Warner-Cohen*

Ritu Khanna  
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## 2005

**10th Reunion May 28–31, 2015**  
Here's the latest:

**Alix Genter** received her PhD in U.S. history of women, gender, and sexuality from Rutgers University.

**Elizabeth Przybylinski** graduated from NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences in May with a PhD in social psychology. Way to go, Alix and Liz. That sounds really hard.

**Ashley Lapin** received her MSc in journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in December 2013, and married Jared Olian on March 29, 2014.

**Ruth Schulder** is a founding partner of the Participation Agency, an experiential agency and winner of an Ex Award—known as the Oscar of experiential marketing—for best production of a consumer event for its eight-city Alienware tour.

Tristate area alumnae can rejoice at the news that **Andrea Hanssen Olitzky** is moving back north to New Jersey! She, her husband, Rabbi Jesse Olitzky, and their daughter, Cayla, welcomed Noah Abraham Olitzky on October 18, 2013. Once safely nestled back in the Northeast's loving arms, Andrea will continue as a social worker.

# High-Court Clerk

## Jennifer Sokoler '06

She's dedicated her legal career to fighting for women's rights, but this summer, 29-year-old Jennifer Sokoler begins her biggest challenge yet—as a clerk for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. “It’s an incredible opportunity to learn from the brightest legal minds in the country,” says Sokoler. While she may have secured one of the most coveted spots in the legal world, she didn’t set out to be an attorney. When the Bethlehem, N.Y., native arrived at Barnard in 2003, her focus was government and public service. Her time at Barnard shaped her career choice. As a political science major, she developed an intense love of writing, serving as a student representative to the board of trustees and helping to start a group called Smart Women Vote.

She credits her mentor and longtime friend, Barnard trustee Binta Niambi Brown '95, with enabling her to see that law was a good way to use her skills to help people. “Jen is one of the smartest and most caring people I know,” says Brown, adding that Sokoler consistently uses her “considerable talents not simply to enrich herself, but to improve the world we live in,” making it “a personal priority to serve the least among us.”

While attending Columbia Law School, Sokoler spent a summer in Tanzania helping the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda prosecute crimes related to the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Since then, she has clerked for two federal judges—New York District Court Judge Denise Cote and Second Circuit Judge Robert A. Katzmann. In 2012 Sokoler started a two-year fellowship at the nonprofit Center for Reproductive Rights, where she deals almost exclusively with Constitutional law issues. “Jen has the right combination of skills needed to be a successful advocate,” says Julie Rikelman, litigation director at the Center for Reproductive Rights. “She is not only incredibly smart but she possesses wonderful social and emotional judgment, which is hard to teach.”

Sokoler, who recently got married, eagerly anticipates working for Sotomayor, the first Hispanic judge and only the third woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. “As a law clerk I will have the unique chance to see firsthand how this institution operates,” she says. —*Sherry Karabin*



**Irene Malatesta** is the director of communications for Manhattan-based real estate developer TF Cornerstone Inc. She splits her spare time working as an independent event consultant and as new-media art curator for the annual FIGMENT participatory arts weekend event on Governor's Island. She lives on the Lower East Side with her husband, Josh Silverman (SEAS '02).

**Melissa Bernett Jordon** gave birth to Gabrielle Simone, 5 lbs., 12 oz., on December 27, 2013, at 12:16 a.m.

**Jessica Horan-Block** is fighting for justice on the reg as a staff attorney at

the Bronx Defenders. She also had a son, Henry Horan-Noble, on January 21.

**Samantha Rebovich Bardoe** works in education reform in Washington, D.C. This past December she and Shirly Kwok (CC '04) attended the wedding of **Jessica Rowe Bivans**.

Naval Lieutenant **Pamela Cole** is stationed in Yokosuka, Japan. Last summer she earned her certification as a sports specialist dietitian, and she was recently awarded the Yokosuka Naval Hospital Provider of the Year award. That honor earned her a Navy and Marine Corps achievement medal. She also serves as

a victim advocate as part of the Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Program and is cochair of her command's morale, welfare, and recreation committee. She was also appointed by her commanding officer to serve as an internal investigator. She'll return to the U.S. in February 2015, serving her next tour of duty at Naval Medical Center San Diego.

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## 2006

**Danna Trachtenberg Zeiger** completed her PhD in molecular and cell biology at Brandeis University. She now has more time to spend with her husband and their 2-year-old son, and writes: “Life truly is awesome post grad school!”

**Darcy Shiber-Knowles** graduated with an MBA from the Yale School of Management in May 2013 and moved to San Diego, where she is practicing yoga, learning to surf, and managing operations systems at Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps. In October, Darcy traveled to Georgia, where she visited with Bacchantae alumnae **Elizabeth Meister** and Jaime Wesker '04, and celebrated the wedding of **Amelia Freeman-Lynde** along with Rebecca Davis '07, Meredith Hill '07, and Hannah Spector (CC '06).

**Rebecca Steinberg** works for Weantinoge Heritage Land Trust in Kent, Conn., as its assistant director of land conservation.

**Jill Donenfeld** started the company Bottarga Dell'Isola, which makes bottarga, or Mediterranean caviar. Her products are sold at All Good Things, Di Palo, Eataly, Il Buco, Morandi, and Soho House.

**Michelle Kaku** is a neurology resident at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York.

**Jennifer Chowdhury** was recently appointed chief communications officer of SourceRise, a tech-based social enterprise that directly connects journalists to on-the-ground experts around the world.

**Halley Bondy** published her book *77 Things You Absolutely Have To Do Before You Finish College*, and dedicated it in part to Barnard.

Rachel Adler '07, **Erica Greenberg Bell**, **Anna Posner Harb**, **Amanda Houle**, **Jennifer Shearer**, and **Regina**



**Shulimovich** reunited in February at the Gramercy Park Hotel and plan to start a Barnard networking group that meets monthly to share career advice, great food, and great drinks.

**Allison Titman** came up from Maryland to New York to join **Julia Chiverton**, **Anne Donlon**, and **Catherina Perifimos** in a mini-reunion to celebrate the 30th birthdays of **Diya Basu-Sen** and **Natalie Mauro**.

**Elizabeth (Betts) Grant Merling** and her husband Jeremy (LAW '05) welcomed their daughter, Amanda Danielle Merling, in November 2013. **Mallory Ward** is her godmother. Betts writes: "I am excited that [Amanda] will know many strong, beautiful, Barnard women as she grows up."

**Rachel Shapiro West** welcomed her son, Jackson Alexander, on November 6, 2013, in Nairobi, where she currently lives with her safari-guide husband.

**Jasmine Sasanian Mehes** and her husband, Adam (LAW '10), welcomed son Joshua on April 9.

**Sarah McNally Zlotoff** married Daniel Zlotoff at the New Haven Lawn Club on October 19, 2013. Barnard friends **Anna Bennett**, **Dina Kalnicki Cohen**, **Lindsay Dreyer**, **Anna Danziger Halperin**, **Leora Rosenblum Holzer** (with daughter Rena), **Sara Levine Kornfield '03**, **Katherine Lamper-Radetsky**, **Jasmine Mehes**, **Irene Tenenbaum**, and **Nicole Tsang** joined in the celebration.

**Irma Khoja** married Jiunn-Ren Chen in Delray Beach, Fla., on April 19, and recently relocated to St. Louis.

**Tracy Massel** married Steve Melzer (CC '05) in November 2013. Nearly 50 Columbia graduates celebrated with the happy couple, including **Carolyn (Nicki) Ashcroft**, **Brett Bell**, **Dina Cohen**, **Purvi Dave**, **Emily Epstein '07**, **Tamar Essner**, **Daniella Fischetti**, **Sheera Hopkins**, **Anna Landau**, **Rebecca Cooper Nadis**, **Sarah Schmidt**, **Seema Shah**, **Shikha Singhvi**, **Jennifer Sokoler**, **Reka Sumangali**, and **Tamar Zeffren**.

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## 2007

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## 2008

**Vanessa Goldstein**, a psychology and film studies dual major at Barnard, worked in the film and entertainment business in Los Angeles for just shy of five years straight after college. Once she realized the entertainment industry was shifting significantly to new media (and L.A. was no longer the industry's nucleus), she took a position at YouTube and returned to her favorite city in the world—New York. There she continues to pursue her passions in creating and curating film and television, while having the opportunity to educate and inspire the most influential communities on YouTube. She would love to reconnect with her colleagues in New York.

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**Ashleigh Hults** was named a Creative Innovator by Condé Nast after launching her own branding agency, Cap & Crown, last year. The Manhattan firm works with a range of clients but focuses on women-run businesses including salon-services company VIVE and nonprofit Alphagirlz. This summer, Hults curated several events, including a multimedia installation at Art Aspen and beauty bar pop-ups in the Hamptons. Prior to launching Cap & Crown, Hults worked for branding agencies Co op and Havas Design +, as well as for Goldman Sachs and Barclays.

## 2009

Our fifth reunion was pure Barnard: bold and beautiful. Not only did we tie with the Class of 1964 for the largest number of attendees, we broke the record for attendees of any fifth reunion class!

The weekend festivities began Thursday evening with the Tri-College Cocktail Party with the Class of 2004 at Lillie's Victorian Establishment. Friday's highlights

included a state of the College address by President Spar ("The state of the College is fabulous!") and a showing of the WNET production *Treasures of New York: Barnard College*, which made a few alumnae weep nostalgic tears. That evening, President Spar led the dedication of our class graduation gift, which was recently completed: a fountain in the middle of the campus quad. Inside are rocks from the McIntosh Student Center's foundations. Outgoing class president **Kathleen Goble** explained that these rocks, along with the central location of the fountain, commemorate our class's ability to redefine the physical idea of community during the tumultuous building of The Diana Center in our last years as Barnard students. The fountain dedication was followed by our class dinner—we had never had a Hewitt dinner like this before! Before dinner, we heard remarks from Jomysha Delgado Stephen '96, general counsel and chief of staff to President Spar. Dorothy Urman Denburg '70 joined us for the celebration, and we presented the results of a "Class of 2009: Then and Now" survey, created by outgoing class vice president **Shalini Agrawal**. We also voted for our new alumnae class council, which will serve for the next five years: president, **Sarah Besnoff**; vice president, **Brittany Pavón-Suriel**; fund chair, **Jennifer Feierman**; and cocorrespondents **Nicole Economou** and **Alexandra Loizzo-Desai**. After dinner and a delicious dessert reception, many '09 alumnae enjoyed drinks and dancing at the Tri-College Young Alumnae Party aboard the *Intrepid*. On Saturday, many of us were lucky enough to have lunch with the Class of 1959, who inspired us with their stories of success both at Barnard and as alumnae. In recognition of all they have done for us (including matching our gifts to the Barnard Fund as seniors), several members of the Class of 2009 made a donation to the Class of 1959's science internship fund, created to support women in STEM fields, and presented it at the luncheon. Saturday evening was also full of music and dancing with our classmates from all three colleges, this time on Columbia's campus and on Low Library steps. Reunion ended on Sunday with our Class of 2009 Midnight Breakfast-style brunch, complete with T-shirts emblazoned with "I Heart BC" on the front and "Strong Beautiful Barnard Class of 2009" on the back. **Celina Kelly**, our classmate and manager of the Barnard

store, created the T-shirts especially for this event. Throughout the weekend, we reconnected with friends, received news of amazing personal and professional accomplishments, and bought more Barnard gear to add to our collections. Those who were lucky enough to attend Reunion 2014 continually remarked on what a special place Barnard is, how much of a home it still feels (and even smells!) like, and the role the College played in shaping the women we are today. We will forever be connected as the Barnard College Class of 2009, and that is a wonderful thing.

Until our next milestone reunion, make sure to stay up-to-date on all things Barnard 2009 by reading our blog at [barnard2009.wordpress.com](http://barnard2009.wordpress.com). See you in 2019!

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## 2010

### 5th Reunion May 28–31, 2015

**Madeline Welsh** recently moved to Brooklyn after three years living in Cairo, where she was a founding editor of *The Cairo Review of Global Affairs*, a political affairs journal. She's now heading up a media-consultancy project for the American University in Cairo, and will be attending graduate school at NYU this fall.

**Kelly Ann Taddonio** passed the New York Bar exam and is now practicing civil rights law at a small firm downtown.

**Aashima Kapoor** married Daniel Mercer on April 12 in Kiawah Island, S.C. Many Barnard and Columbia friends were present to help the couple celebrate. Aashima and Dan are both working as health care consultants in New York City.

In August, **Emma Brockway** will enroll at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University for her MBA. She plans to pursue a career in marketing and brand management.

**Sarah Blakley-Cartwright** is currently teaching intermediate fiction writing at the University of Oregon. She is at work on her second novel.

**Carling Bateman** is moving across the country to Salt Lake City to start a nonprofit for youth involvement in the arts.

**Clementine Gilbert** will be leaving Google to attend the University of Pennsylvania's Integrated Product Design program this fall. It is a two-year program designed to train students in technology, business, manufacturing, aesthetics, and human-product interaction, and provide them with a framework for bringing these disciplines together to create compelling new products and experiences.

**Elisheva Bellin** married Yehonatan Givati of Jerusalem, celebrating with Barnard roommates, friends, and family including mom Marcy Goldstein '81 and sister-in-law Rebekah (Rivkah) Blutstein '12. Elisheva is pursuing a PhD in clinical psychology at Long Island University-Brooklyn, with Barnard roommate Ayelet Boussi '09.

**Amanda Miller** graduated from medical school in May and will be entering her residency at Mount Sinai, St. Luke's and Roosevelt hospitals in obstetrics and gynecology.

After shooting New York Fashion Week for IMG, **Naomi Ellenson** was signed with Getty Images as a freelance photographer in its entertainment and editorial departments.

**Suzanne Chipkin** recently started a job at the New York Public Library. She is managing the Young Lions, the library's membership program for young professionals, and has the pleasure of working with several other Barnard alumnae. She lives in Brooklyn.

**Miko Khan and Malgorzata (Gosia) Pawlak** just launched the Barnard Club of Colorado. Miko and Gosia are excited to see it grow.

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## 2011

**Maria Luiza (Malu) Gatto** will enter her third year as a PhD candidate in politics at the University of Oxford, where she studies women's political representation in Latin America. She has also recently cofounded the Oxbridge Human Development Research Group, which provides pro bono and low-cost research and training services to NGOs and international organizations in gender equality and human trafficking.

**Ilana Krakowski** will move to Boston

to start rabbinical school at Hebrew College.

**Janelle Batta** recently moved to Florida, where she's working as a paralegal at the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, representing children in licensed foster care.

**Hadley Johnson** finished the first year of a PhD program in clinical psychology. She is in New York City and would love to meet up with fellow alumnae.

**Evan Tamura** will begin her third year of medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, and after two arduous years of preclinical courses she is absolutely thrilled to be out and about in the hospital. Thanks to her inspirational Barnard roots, she remains an active member and former chapter board member of the American Medical Women's Association and Medical Students for Choice. In her free time, she enjoys singing with Einstein's a cappella group, the Lymph Notes.

**Robyn Gordon** will graduate from Tulane University Law School in New Orleans. She is moving to Minneapolis to start working as a public defender at the Hennepin County public defender's office in August once she (hopefully) passes the bar.

**Madeleine Saucier** has been living and working in France for the past three years and is finishing up work as a paralegal in the international arbitration practice at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. She is excited to move back to the U.S., spend time with her family on the coast of Maine, and hopefully start working in Boston in the nonprofit sector in the fall.

**Tatiana de Dalmas** is an analyst on Eurazeo's sourcing and fund-raising team. She contributes to the generation of investment opportunities and supports the fund-raising process. Tatiana spent two years prior at Auldbrass Partners, a secondary private-equity fund, where she was responsible for sourcing and pricing potential investment opportunities. Prior to working at Auldbrass Partners, Tatiana was an analyst at E.K. Wallace.

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**Joy Harrison** graduated from Georgia State University, earning her master's in teaching in early childhood education. She is also continuing her teaching commitment for a third year with Teach for America in Atlanta.

**Adrienne Hezghia** received a fellowship to conduct research on the recovery of patients with severe head injuries at Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris.

**Jaquelyn Jahn** will be starting a master's program at the Harvard School of Public Health in the fall.

**Katrina Kostro** is finishing her two-year position as a clinical-research coordinator at the Columbia University Medical Center's eating disorders research unit. Katrina is looking forward to taking a break from New York, where she was born and raised, and embarking on some West Coast adventures. Until she crosses coasts, you can catch her on Sunday mornings on *The Moonshine Show* at WKCR 89.9 FM.

**Deena Mitlak** has accepted a new job at the insurance company New York Life. She looks forward to moving back to New York and attending more events at Barnard.

**Margaret Robotham** will also be starting a master's program at the Harvard School of Public Health in the fall in health policy and management on a partial scholarship. Margaret also said **Sarah Martin** was recently promoted as the newest associate merchandise planner at the corporate headquarters of Abercrombie and Fitch. She also said **Danielle Dodo** is in her second year at Google as a rich-media project manager for mobile-advertising products.

**Sruthi Swami** will be attending graduate school to get her PhD in school psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. While she is sad to be leaving the East Coast, she is excited to be heading back to school.

**Alyss Vavricka** has started a new job as a senior analyst at LivePerson Inc., a big-data web analytics company based in Manhattan. Formerly a software consultant at IBM, she will focus on post-sales analytics and strategy as a member of the LivePerson customer success team.

**Astrika Wilhelm** is clerking for the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., this summer. She will be working with the Environmental Appeals Board and the EPA's administrative law judges.

**Brina Tretin** said **Gabrielle Wilner** married Chaim Grushko on April 6. Bridesmaids included **Marisa Gruber**, **Yamit Remz**, Shoshana Schoenfeld '11, **Brina Tretin**, and **Lauren Wagner**. The wedding was heavily attended by other Barnard graduates.

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## 2013

Look how the time flies. It has already been an entire year since we graduated, and many of our classmates returned to campus for Reunion on May 29–June 1.

**Sarah Steinman** reports that Reunion was a fantastic experience. The weekend began with a Friday night cocktail hour, where members of our class met older alumnae, took an official class photo, ate a delicious dinner, and got to reconnect with old friends. There were about 40 alumnae from the Class of '13, which made for an intimate but energetic environment. President Spar stopped by for a short Q & A, creating the opportunity to hear about how Barnard has changed in the 12 short months since we left. She shared plans for the curriculum and library, and what she's most excited about for the 125th anniversary. After dinner and dessert, most of those attendees headed down to a party on the *Intrepid*, which was a blast, despite a little rain. The rest of Reunion was equally as fantastic. Many thanks to the entire planning committee for all the hard work its members put into making this an amazing weekend. All of us who graduated in 2013 have come so far and have met challenges in the "real world" head-on; we are all so proud of each other. Keep up the good work out there, and in the meantime take a look at what some of your classmates have been doing.

**Annika Christensen** is now working for the U.S. Senate as a staff assistant on the commerce committee. She is thrilled to be working on the Hill with other Barnard alumnae, including Lauren Belive '06, Carly Katz '09, and Rachel Wilkinson '10, and to be in D.C. with Barnard friends including **Andrea Buhler** and **Lauren Hancock**.

**Emily Arsen** published an article on asthma and the immigrant health paradox in the *Columbia University Journal of Politics*

and *Society*. **Divya Subramanian**, College roommate and editor at the journal, was pivotal in the process.

**Stavroula Koinis** recently finished her first semester of graduate school at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College. This summer, she is excited to be tutoring children at the Lindamood-Bell Learning Center in Manhattan, and also getting some relaxation time before her final year of graduate school. In the fall, she looks forward to interning at the Geller House on Staten Island, through the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services.

**Jennifer Piperno** is working for the School of International Training as a program assistant for the Conflict Transformation Across Cultures program, which works with peace builders from around the world, increasing their knowledge and training in the areas of conflict transformation, management, and resolution. After that, she will be the only female participant on a month-long National Outdoor Leadership School mountaineering expedition in the north Cascades. She hopes to move to Nepal in September, where she plans to complete the six-month practicum phase of her master's program in intercultural service, leadership, and management. Her ultimate goal is to learn about base-camp management, porters' rights, and the social, economic, and political consequences of tourism to the Everest region.

**Katherine Taylor** is volunteering for an amazing organization called Minds Matter, which helps disadvantaged high school students gain acceptance into competitive colleges. She used to be a mentee and is very excited to be returning as a mentor. She also encourages more Barnard alumnae and students to volunteer with this incredible organization.

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## 2014

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# In Memoriam

- 1932 **Carolyn Silbermann Koffler**  
May 15, 2014
- 1935 **Marion Greenebaum Epstein**  
March 24, 2014
- 1936 **Lucille Dannenberg Merkin**  
July 30, 2013
- 1937 **Ursula Reinhardt Freimarck**  
September 13, 2013
- 1938 **Margaret Jameson Wilson**  
March 11, 2003  
**Maxine Meyer Greene**  
May 28, 2014
- 1939 **Cozette Utech Chazotte**  
February 14, 2009  
**Millicent Bridegroom Di Guiseppe**  
March 7, 2011  
**Mary Richey Miner**  
May 10, 2012  
**Jean Lyons Graham**  
May 1, 2013  
**Anne Milman Briscoe**  
April 16, 2014
- 1941 **Elaine Briggs Wyckoff**  
March 29, 2014  
**Marguerite Binder Zamaitis**  
April 26, 2014
- 1942 **Felice Wasell Ichniowski**  
April 20, 2013  
**Dorothy Dumont Howard**  
April 1, 2014
- 1943 **Helen Gorrie Phillips**  
March 20, 2009
- 1944 **Emma de Le Vin Henderson**  
April 16, 2013  
**Carol Sheldon**  
December 22, 2013  
**Evinda Henrickson Lorenzi**  
February 5, 2014
- 1946 **Virginia Sarafianos McCrory**  
December 9, 2013  
**Barbara Kinney De Franceaux**  
January 31, 2014
- 1947 **Nancy Harris Brach**  
April 5, 2014
- 1948 **Helen Allan Archibald**  
March 10, 2014
- 1949 **Inge Falk Barron**  
June 22, 2008  
**Barbara Higbee Robinson**  
October 22, 2013  
**Beth Harding Scheuerman**  
March 26, 2014  
**Elizabeth Werth Beyerly**  
April 7, 2014  
**Mary Nicholson Goldworth**  
April 16, 2014  
**Roberta Messing Engelhardt**  
May 8, 2014
- 1950 **Evi Ellis Wohlgemuth**  
March 5, 2013  
**Ruth Osborn Daisley**  
February 24, 2014  
**Esther Jones**  
March 4, 2014  
**Mary Jpenlaz-Pajic**  
April 1, 2014  
**Elizabeth Buddington Branagan**  
April 13, 2014
- 1953 **Clare Greenberger Freedman**  
December 2, 2013
- 1954 **Anne Russell**  
May 13, 2013  
**Audrey Scheinblum Kosman**  
March 26, 2014
- 1955 **Estelle Marks**  
November 7, 2013
- 1956 **Barbara Gorfinkle Kaplan**  
December 10, 2013  
**Rhoda Brandes**  
March 31, 2014  
**Nathalie Kisseleff Grabar**  
May 1, 2014
- 1957 **Joyce Rickabaugh Drake**  
May 27, 2014
- 1959 **Miriam Dushman Mazon**  
April 4, 2014  
**Gail Bruce Ward**  
May 22, 2014
- 1960 **Annalita Marsigli Alexander**  
June 28, 2013
- 1964 **Mallory Edie Crawford**  
March 18, 2014
- 1966 **Lesley Higby Benson**  
March 30, 2010  
**Ellen Youngelson**  
November 2, 2013  
**Barbara Reich Gluck**  
January 16, 2014
- 1969 **Irene Guggenheim Navarro**  
January 17, 2012
- 1974 **Augusta Devine**  
May 19, 2011
- 1975 **Frances Harbour**  
December 19, 2013
- 1979 **Altagracia Dilone Levat**  
April 16, 2014
- 1991 **Deborah Brown Baron**  
February 4, 2014



were forced to interact with one another. Newly arrived immigrants jostled with the children of established families in public schools and Girl Scout troops. Teenagers across the country and from all socioeconomic strata listened to the same Top 40 radio tunes; their parents watched the same three broadcast channels on the nightly news. Today, by contrast, an explosion of digital media, coupled with a movement toward the political edges of both national parties, has led to a massive fracturing of what was once the middle ground. Online, we choose our “friends” consciously, and scramble to like what they do. We choose music and news from a wider array with a narrower pitch, essentially listening only to what we already know we like. And as a result, we risk losing one of this country’s greatest strengths: our tolerance for difference and our ability to engage those with whom we disagree.

At Barnard’s Commencement this year, we were doubly lucky. Lucky to have Cecile Richards, the president of Planned Parenthood, as our speaker, and to have a community that respected her right to speak, even if they disagreed with her words. In a compelling (and critical) editorial published in the *Columbia Spectator*, senior Kate Christensen made the point well: “I hope Richards is able to give us meaningful encouragement and life advice as we gather together one final time before departing Barnard, drawing upon her experience as a leader, as a spouse, and as a parent to inspire us to aim high and help others.” This is what we are trying to teach here, and what we constantly need to recall. We don’t need to agree with people to learn something from them.

I go to a lot of commencements. Yet no matter how many I attend, and how frequently I watch those nearly identical graduates march down the aisles, I inevitably get choked up at some point during the ceremony. I will see a student who I know struggled during her time at Barnard, or one who is heading off to a particularly exciting opportunity, and my stomach will rise into my throat, forcing out the tears. Because, despite the bad polyester and pompous circumstance, graduation is a big deal. It is the start of our students’ adult lives, and the moment

for them to begin putting into action all their hard-won truths. One of these truths, and one of the defining characteristics of maturity, is the importance of evaluating competing claims, of holding two competing realities in our minds at once. If we abandon this goal, or neglect the university’s fundamental mission as a forum for ideas, then we will truly have lost our way.

## WRITING HISTORY’S HEROINES

Continued from Page 5

Her dissertation on Jonathan Sewall, a friend of John Adams and the last British attorney general of Massachusetts, won the Bancroft Dissertation Award, and the subsequent 1974 book, *Jonathan Sewall: Odyssey of an American Loyalist*, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

“When I applied for a scholarship to Columbia in 1964, one of the department members said to me, ‘Oh, we can’t give money to you. A cute young thing like you will be married and pregnant within the year!’ So when I won Columbia’s Bancroft Prize, well, I have to confess I really enjoyed the looks on some of the men’s faces.”

A position at Baruch followed, during which time Berkin built her successful publishing career. Her book *A Brilliant Solution* (2002) is perhaps the most popular narrative on the Constitutional Convention; many of her books on early American women’s history, particularly *First Generations* (1996) and *Revolutionary Mothers* (2005), are among the most widely read on the topic.

Berkin calls the subject of *Wondrous Beauty*, Betsy Bonaparte, perhaps “the first-ever American celebrity.” Born into a prosperous Baltimore family in 1785, she met Jérôme Bonaparte at 17, and they married within the year; the union infuriated both Betsy’s father and the bridegroom’s famous *frère*, who expected his brother to marry a member of the European nobility. The emperor had the marriage annulled and banned Betsy from entering France. She eventually found a berth near London, where Jérôme’s son

was born, and later, she and her son sailed back to Baltimore, although she spent much of her life in Europe, bored with provincial America.

She lived to age 94, but Betsy was mostly miserable. Berkin’s skillful storytelling elevates Betsy’s long, embittered life, casting her as an early feminist who carried on and became a wealthy landowner after being dismissed by patriarchies on two continents. “People have said to me, ‘Oh, Betsy was a bitch!’” says Berkin. “I ask them: Do you know what it took for a woman to travel to Europe alone in the 19th century? And to have been courted by many men, but remain respectable, and never remarry. She was an extraordinarily strong woman, willing to make the sacrifices necessary in order to be her own person.

“In a way,” Berkin muses, “Betsy Bonaparte was living as the strong, independent woman so many of us learned to be at Barnard, all those years later.”

## ON THE MOVE

Continued from Page 13

impossible to completely accessible, in the same work. That was the problem I set myself, moving from huge sophistication to complete innocence.

**KG** *Is it possible to move to an innocent place with generating movement and choreography?*

**TT** I actually challenged myself in that way fairly recently. My family is Quaker, and the idea of Wednesday meetings was everyone went to the church, and if no one had something to say, everyone sat silently; if someone had something to say, they got up to do it. So I assigned the task of, okay, you’re not going anywhere, you’re not doing anything until you get your mind clear and you stop telling yourself what to do, and if you move, you move. If you don’t, you don’t. And I said to myself, okay, can you carry through on that, and start a new move? And I said, okay, we’ll call that one. Now, how many of those can you generate? [*Tharp settled on 300.*]

And I was thinking of them like a clock. I was thinking about, “tick-tick,” and they

had to be equal. I call it the equivalent of a second. They're a way of documenting the passage of time.

**KG** *Why 300?*

**TT** Three hundred is easy. Five hundred gets to be something of a hike, and then I began to find that either I was starting to repeat things or I was purposely not repeating things. And either way, that's not what I wanted to be doing. The brain's telling the body where to go, and the whole point was to keep the brain out of it. There are various studies and...you know, there are whole disciplines about keeping the brain out of it.

#### ABOUT *TREEFROG* IN STONEHENGE

**KG** *What was the task with Treefrog in Stonehenge?*

**TT** The task was to write a piece for students that would have its lessons embedded in a performance piece, because when I was a kid, I studied keyboard, and always was very grateful for the composers who had written their lessons in the form of beautiful music, such as Bach or Debussy. And I saw no contradiction between the study of technique and the performance of something that had communication in it beyond just the training of the muscles.

And I wanted to make something that would be appropriate for young people who didn't have a lot of professional experience—that would be put into a circular configuration for a number of reasons, but amongst them, so that they would be compelled to work together rather than just dealing with themselves in a class. Putting it in a circle, keeping people moving all the time, trying not to let the dancing student sort of go to the side and hang out for a minute and a half while the other group goes. Keep them all going. Stamina. Build endurance.

The circle is also a very interesting structural form, both ritually and in terms of its relationship to time. Circle is a result of right and left combining, so that the impact of rotation and revolution creates all kinds of combinations and possibilities that many students are not aware of. They should be. And the particular circle that I selected, namely Stonehenge, is defined by the various facings of the plinths that make it up, so that the circle rotates  $x$  number of degrees from each member to each member, and it's very important that

students learn to operate on fronts other than just the obvious audience, or the mirror.

I chose Stonehenge because of its configuration and also because of its ritual connections. There is a theory that Stonehenge—that if in the summer one stands exactly in the center of the thing and looks down the alley that went to some other area—which they're not sure what it was—there's something called the heel stone, which when the sun rises, the summer solstice is exactly documented. So in that sense, Stonehenge is also time as well as space. Very elegant.

It's important that the materials of *Treefrog in Stonehenge* get evolved to a point where the student can feel as though they are experiencing the depth of the project without me. And the goal is that they won't be there, either, and that the materials that they use will be refined to a point where a student can take these materials and put it up themselves exactly like a cook does from a recipe, or a play is put up from a text, or a symphony happens from a score. The material should be available to them in the same way.

I think one of the problems for dance in the culture is it does not have gravitas. It does not have gravitas because it does not have materials. It is effervescent; it disappears. If it has tangible assets, it becomes something to be considered in a different way. Why shouldn't it be possible for a person to write a dance in exactly the same way it's possible for a composer to write a piece of music?

**KG** *So how do you go about setting down a dance in a way that doesn't need to be taught from one generation of dancers to another, but so that people can learn it?*

**TT** *Treefrog in Stonehenge* is extremely sophisticated. And it's taken a while to learn how to capture that movement, and what needs to be said in order to pinpoint it. And you know, after thinking about it for quite a long time, it was possible to write out, before the dance was made, what I would need after, which was the adventure.

So I would do a phrase. Then I would figure out, okay, where's this phrase going to be put in the context of the whole, and what kind of spatial configuration do we want, what kind of tempo? We didn't have any music yet. The music was written later, too. What kind of tempo shall we

have? What kind of length shall we have? So, you know, it's essentially like the movement became colors: blue, red, and green. Now let's make a painting. And that's what happened.

This piece is an experiment in the sense that I didn't know any of the 16 dancers, and it was not made for individuals; it was made generically. It's a very Bachian kind of concept, fugues and counterpoints. You put one voice in, and then the other voices are adjusted and adapted, whether it's a prelude or a fugue, and you know, you're going to have a different kind of harmony and so forth. It's very abstract. With specific dancers, depending on how much you want to take each one of them into account, you can make a portrait. I've made many portraits of many great dancers. And these could never have been done on a computer, because who and what that person's portrait is going to become, becomes that in the studio, in the working. You don't know in advance. You only know later. That's a different deal.

#### LAST IMAGE: CALL FOR ENTRIES

Do you have an amazing photograph or work of art that you would like to share with fellow alumnae? Please send submissions to David Hopson at [dhopson@barnard.edu](mailto:dhopson@barnard.edu).





# THE INTRIGUE OF JUST PASSING THROUGH

**Spring break in Paris**, my senior year. A friend of a friend of a friend had offered to put me up for the week, and I found a cheap ticket through the Student Travel Agency. I knew one person in the whole city, a friend who was busy with her studies at Reid Hall. But I also had an assignment that felt more like a secret mission: To deliver the draft of a book by one of my Russian studies professors, about the Soviet dissident writer Andrei Sinyavsky, to Sinyavsky himself, who lived on the outskirts of the city.

I spent the first few days dutifully climbing the steps of Montmartre, drinking espresso, sitting on park benches with a journal, longing for love, and eating fresh peaches and pears straight from bins at outdoor markets. I loved the singsong of each shopkeeper's *bonjour* and *au revoir* every time I entered and exited a store. Fittingly, the Lonely Planet was my guide, as I was constantly lonely in a city that seemed to demand romance.

Midway through the week, I went to the Turkish baths, where I relished knowing that nobody in the whole world knew where I was. It was like getting lost on purpose, a feeling marvelous and unsettling. As if I could disappear into the steam never to be named again, I was surrounded by large women and small women, women old and young, women whose skin shocked me with

its folds and creases, women whose company was both distant and comforting.

I was tiny then, and naked in so many ways, not at home in my body yet, and yet at home, somehow, in the world as a traveler, with its freedom from having to be anyone, explain anything, or even understand anything beyond the senses, beyond color and smell and taste and my own two wandering feet.

On my last morning there, unable to delay my errand any longer, I set out for the suburb of Fontenay-aux-Roses to find Sinyavsky's home. As the train moved away from the city center, I clutched the book and looked out the window as each small station whizzed past: women with grocery carts, an old man smoking on a bench, a little girl tugging on her mother's skirt. When I got off the train, I dug out my directions, feeling improbable and a bit shy, as I walked up into a neighborhood that reminded me of my grandparents' in Queens. Locating the house, I circled around the block a few times, wondering what to say when someone came to the door, whether my Russian would hold up, whether he'd remember I was coming.

His wife answered the bell, a hefty and ageless *babushka*. I explained that I'd been sent by my professor to give a book to Mr. Sinyavsky. She addressed me using the more formal *Вы* (*vu-iy*). I accepted her offer of tea, and we chatted a little.

She bustled around the living room, where every table, shelf, and surface was completely covered with papers and books, until eventually Sinyavsky appeared. I handed him the book. I wish I could tell you what he said, what we discussed—all I can recall is that he looked older than his 69 years, and I felt younger than my 21. Then, as if I dreamed the whole trip, I was back in my borrowed room in Paris, and then back in an Upper West Side dorm room, no closer to love or dissidence than I'd been before, yet somehow changed, having glimpsed the home of a writer who once said, "[Literature is] a sort of doubled-edged game or adventure that in itself embodies the intrigue of a fascinating novel."

The intrigue of those few days stayed with me, as did my brief encounter with Sinyavsky. Professor Catharine Nepomnyashchy's book got published. I graduated right on schedule, released into the world to find my way. In the years that have followed, when the daily grind threatens to blur my sense of adventure, I return in my mind to riding the train into the Parisian suburbs. I play a little game, as I'm driving to work, or walking to town, or making the lunches, or sinking into a hot bath. I squint my eyes and imagine that I'm in a foreign country. Every single time, without fail, the world instantly sharpens, once again fascinating and new.

And I remember: I'm still traveling. I'm just passing through.





Fall/Winter 2014

# Barnard Readings in Contemporary Art

A new course for alumnae and guests led by  
**Kathleen Madden '92**

Join us for a new contemporary art reading group led by curator, critic, and editor Kathleen Madden '92. This reading group will explore key texts to historically contextualize the motivations of artists working today.

The course will meet four times:

**October 21**

The Bride and the Bachelors  
by Calvin Tomkins

**November 18**

Inside the White Cube  
by Brian O'Doherty

**December 9**

Experience or Interpretation  
by Nicholas Serota

**January 20**

Performance Art: From Futurism to the Present  
by RoseLee Goldberg

**Course Fee: \$525**

For more information or to register, please visit [alum.barnard.edu/alumnaeartreadings](http://alum.barnard.edu/alumnaeartreadings) or contact Alumnae Affairs at 212.854.2005 or [alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu](mailto:alumnaeaffairs@barnard.edu).

**B**  
BARNARD  
ALUMNAE

125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS SPOTLIGHT

## FALL 2014

For more information on these and other exceptional programs happening at Barnard this fall, visit [barnard.edu](http://barnard.edu) or call 212.854.2037.

Monday, 09/15 7 PM

**CONSIDERING THE CREATIVE HABIT:  
TWYLA THARP '63**

*Event Oval, The Diana Center*

Wednesday, 09/17 7 PM

**WOMEN POETS:  
SANDRA LIM AND LOUISE GLÜCK**

*Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall*

Thursday, 09/18 7 PM

**"THE GENDER PAY GAP:  
GOING, GOING...BUT NOT GONE"**

A lecture by Francine Blau  
*405 Milbank Hall*

Monday, 09/29 6:30 PM

**SEXES, GENDERS, AND BRAINS: FOUR  
SCIENTISTS, FOUR PERSPECTIVES**

Moderated by Natalie Angier '78  
*Event Oval, The Diana Center*

Tuesday, 10/07 6:30 PM

**BLACK FEMINIST FUTURES AND THE PRACTICE  
OF FUGITIVITY**

A lecture by Tina Campt  
*James Room, 4th Floor Barnard Hall*

Ongoing, opens on Sunday, 10/26

**1:25 BARNARD DANCES**

A digital/interactive performance installation  
*Throughout the Barnard campus*



TRANSFORMING  
WOMEN  
AND THE  
WORLD  
FOR  
125 YEARS

SAVE THE DATE!

# FOUNDERS DAY

**Sunday, October 26**  
**11 AM–4 PM**  
**Barnard Campus**

Enjoy Barnard's rich history and vibrant community as we open campus for a day-long celebration with alumnae, students, faculty, and staff. Activities include:

- ♦ Lectures and classes with distinguished faculty
- ♦ Dance, music, and theatre performances
- ♦ Campus tours showcasing our history, architecture, and environment
- ♦ Art and history exhibitions
- ♦ Admissions tours and information sessions for families and students
- ♦ Film screenings
- ♦ Activities for children of all ages
- ♦ Snacks, beverages, and popular NYC food trucks
- ♦ And more!

Open to all. Bring your friends and family.

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125TH ANNIVERSARY

